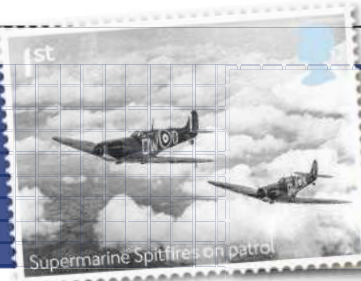


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**Malta's 1886
late, great
high value**



**Battle of Britain
commemoratives
make a comeback**



Races apart

How South Africa's postmarks reflected segregation policies

The House of Questa



Micronations

Surreal 'countries' which issue stamps

The upstart litho specialist which shook up British stamp printing in the 1980s and 1990s



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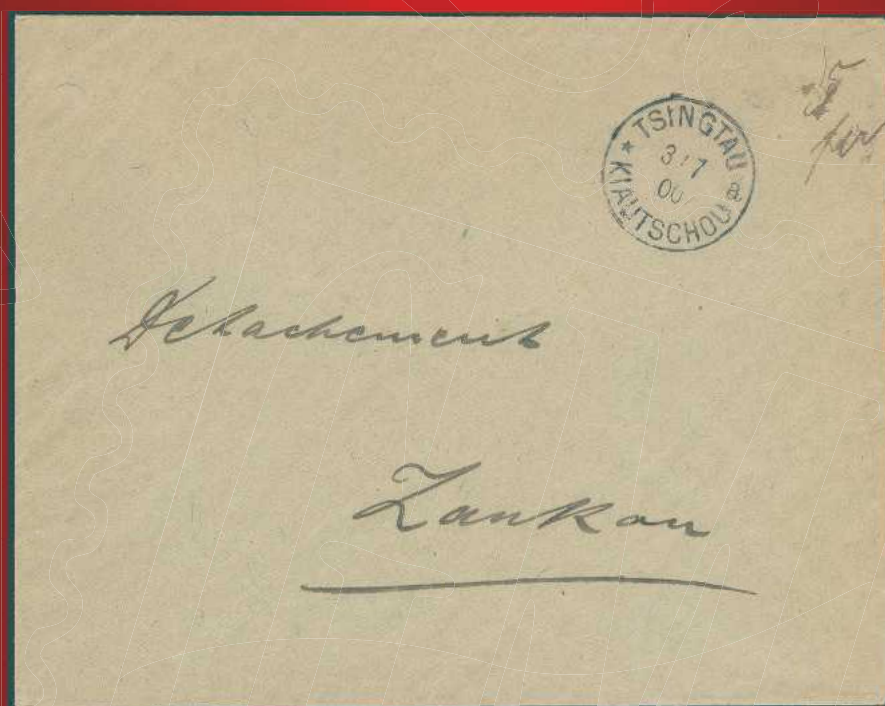


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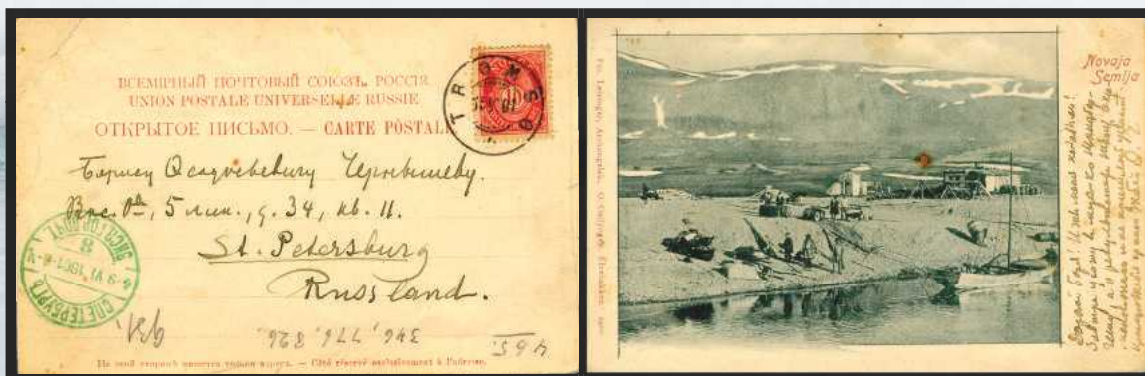
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Receipt stamped 9 June (-13 days on their Julian calendar) in St. Petersburg, Russia (= 22 June 1901 on Gregorian calendar).

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WELCOME

Great Britain's special stamp programme has been working its way through a glut of historical landmarks recently, with the 175th anniversary of the postage stamp, the 100th anniversary of World War I (part two), the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, and now the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.



Phew! For some collectors, perhaps, it's all got a bit heavy, and it will be a relief to get back to lighter thematic issues featuring bees and rugby, which are coming up next.

Should Royal Mail have gone a little easier on the history lesson? No, I don't think so.

For all the allure of scenery, architecture, flora and fauna, transport and popular culture, any nation's stamp-issuing programme is at its best when it celebrates the historical moments and personalities that made it what it is — and that is especially true where they had a big influence on the wider world.

All five of the events in this succession of British commemorations did just that, and all of them are also being marked by stamp issues from other countries, which tells us something.

Do I sense a slight reticence on Royal Mail's part to make too much of the Battle of Britain issue, which comes in the form of a miniature sheet only? Perhaps that's because an anniversary with a '5' in it is less impressive than one with a '00' in it. Or is it because no new issue could hope to stand comparison with that of 1965?

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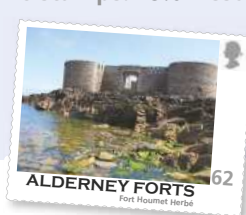
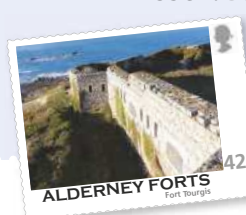
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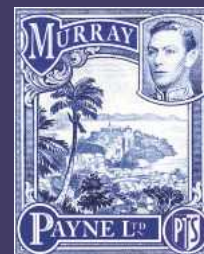
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New Zealand defends the microprinting of its country name on stamps

New Zealand Post has insisted that its stamps do conform to the rules of the Universal Postal Union, even though the country name on the recent 1915 Spirit of Anzac set was so small as to be almost invisible to the naked eye.

The six 80c, two \$2 and two \$2.50 values, which were issued only in a range of sheetlets and miniature sheets (May issue, page 9), had 'New Zealand' microprinted alongside a stylised poppy as part of the WW100 commemorations logo, but otherwise it did not appear on any of the designs.

Article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention states that all stamps should state their country of origin except Great Britain (exempted because it issued the first stamps in 1840), which instead uses a portrait or cameo of the monarch by way of identification.

No minimum size is laid down for this inscription, but as it is almost illegible on the Spirit of Anzac stamps they could in theory be deemed invalid for international mail.

An NZ Post spokesperson said: 'As per UPU guidelines, all of our stamps do have the country of origin shown on them, as well as New Zealand Post's unique fern identifier.'

'On the Spirit of Anzac stamps, the country name forms part of the WW100 logo, and we decided that it would look odd if we put it on the stamp twice.'



ABOVE: Can you spot the country name on this 1915 Spirit of Anzac \$2.50 pair from New Zealand?



ABOVE: It appears only as part of this WW100 commemorations logo

World's most expensive stamp is owned by a shoemaker

The owner of the world's most expensive stamp, the unique British Guiana 1856 1c black on magenta, has publicly revealed his identity a year after buying it at a Sotheby's auction in New York.

The man who paid a world record £5.6m (including buyer's premium) for the stamp in June 2014 was Stuart Weitzman, a 73-year-old American fashion designer whose fortune was made in the footwear industry.

Known for the 'million dollar' shoes worn by celebrities at red-carpet events, Weitzman told the *New York Times* that as a child he had a worldwide stamp album which had a big space on one page for the British Guiana 1c!

He gave his interview as the stamp went on display at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in Washington DC. Apart from making a brief appearance at Monacophil in December, it will remain there until November 2017, longer than it has ever previously been on public view.

Weitzman also revealed himself as the current owner of the unique plate block of four of the USA 1918 24c 'Inverted Jenny' printing error, which he is believed to have purchased from the Mystic Stamp Company for about £3.2m, also in 2014.

Weitzman began designing shoes for his father's company in Haverhill, Massachusetts, in the early 1960s. They are now sold in more than 70 countries,



Canada perforation error could be a modern rarity

A dramatic perforation error on Canada's 2015 Pansies miniature sheet has been discovered by a dealer in Quebec.

The perforations are shifted upwards and slightly to the right, leaving a blank space above the images on the two se-tenant designs, and the country name and value (a Permanent symbol in each case) missing from the stamps.

Michelle Levesque, the co-owner of the Zimo Stamp Co found four misperforated sheets among a batch she was using as postage to clients.

The company was waiting to see whether further examples came to light before offering the errors for sale.



Gibraltar's golden high-value celebrates the Queen's longevity

With Queen Elizabeth II set to become Britain's longest-reigning monarch on September 10, Gibraltar has issued a special high-value stamp printed using 22-carat gold leaf.

Based on a photograph of the Queen seated on a throne, taken by Sir Cecil Beaton in 1955, it is Gibraltar's first ever £10 stamp, and the first to carry the inscription 'Queen of Gibraltar'.

Printed by Lowe Martin using offset lithography and thermography, it is also available in a limited-edition miniature sheet of four stamps in a commemorative folder, priced £40.

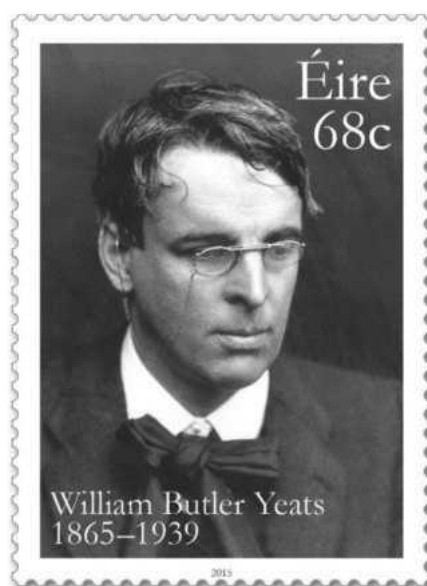


Ireland issue venerates W B Yeats

Ireland has issued a stamp to mark the 150th anniversary of William Butler Yeats, the country's most famous poet.

Born in Dublin in 1865, W B Yeats was a driving force behind the Irish literary revival of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and was the first Irishman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature, in 1923.

Although he grew up as part of the Protestant minority, he became a nationalist and a republican. He served as a Senator in the Irish Free State, but at other times distanced himself from politics.



Entries invited for New York's world exhibition

The deadline for the submission of exhibitors' entry forms for the New York 2016 World Stamp Show is August 15.

Competitive entries are invited for a wide range of classes, the minimum qualification being a vermeil award at national level within the past 10 years. There will be 3,800 frames of exhibits.

For details contact the UK commissioner, Jon Aitchison, at Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM22 7TF. E-mail: britishlocals@aol.com

The event takes place from May 28 to June 4, 2016. For more information visit www.ny2016.org

NEWS IN BRIEF

► The British Thematic Association's John Fosbery Thematic Trophy competition (for collectors who have not competed at national level) and BTA Cup competitions will be shown and judged at the South of England Stamp Fair & Sussex Philatelic Convention at Ardingly Showground on October 10. For details contact Brian Sole. E-mail: brian.sole@btinternet.com

► Michel has produced a new Europe Compact Catalogue, which covers all European countries in one PDF document of almost 3,000 pages. It is available only on a memory stick, which can be read using Acrobat Reader V4, priced €199 (about £145). Visit www.michel.de

► Hugh Jefferies, the editor of Stanley Gibbons catalogues, was awarded an MBE in the Queen's birthday honours list, for services to philately.

► This year's Stuart Rossiter Memorial Lecture will be given by Ben Palmer, entitled 'Theory Versus Practice in Postal History'. Tickets for the event, at the Royal Philatelic Society London on November 6, are free but must be booked in advance. E-mail: rexdixon@btinternet.com

► A guide to youth stamp competitions can be downloaded from the Stamp Active website. It describes Britain's three annual exhibitions and how to enter them. Visit www.stampactive.co.uk

Obituaries: Arthur Gray

Australia's best known collector, Arthur Gray, has died at the age of 76.

After a successful business career, Gray did not make a name for himself in philatelic circles until he began exhibiting in 1998,

but went on to win more than 20 large gold medals at international exhibitions, mostly with his Australian Commonwealth collections.

In New York in 2007, his collection of the iconic Kangaroo & Map definitive series was sold by Shreves for a total of about £3.5m, a world record for a 20th-century collection.

His wider King George V collection is due to be auctioned by Mossgreen in Melbourne in October.



Charles Goodwyn

Charles Goodwyn, who was the Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection from 1995 until 2003, has died at the age of 81.

Goodwyn is credited with making the Collection more visible to ordinary collectors than it had previously been, by showing elements of it at exhibitions and other events in Britain and overseas.

A specialist in the philately of Hong Kong and China, and a signatory of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, he also served as Secretary, Treasurer and President of the Royal Philatelic Society London.

Germany celebrates its founding father Bismarck

Germany has marked the 200th birth anniversary of the founding father of the nation, Otto von Bismarck, with a portrait stamp.

Germany was a loosely affiliated collection of separate kingdoms, dukedoms and city states before Bismarck, as Minister President of Prussia, unified them through skilful diplomacy and a series of short wars against Denmark, Austria and France in the 1860s and 1870s.

He then served as the first Chancellor of the German Empire from 1871-90, aiming to keep the peace while building up German influence in Europe.



Greenland's SEPAC design mirrors Europa, with a twist

Greenland's contribution to the SEPAC (Small European Postal Administrations Co-operation) omnibus issue, whose 2015 theme is culture, is entitled Gay Pride.

The design is an adaptation of a Greenlandic toy, pulaartut, which also features on the country's 2015 Europa omnibus stamp on the theme of old toys.



Leeds prepares to host GB Philatelic Congress

Leeds Philatelic Society, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year, hosts the 97th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain from August 6-9.

The venue is the Queens Hotel, which is adjacent to the city's main railway station, and the theme for the event is the year 1890.

Among a range of speakers, John Davis will give a display of material produced for the Jubilee Exhibition of 1890, Julian Stray from the British Postal Museum & Archive will talk about the postal system at that time, and members of Leeds PS will show local postal history and items from the society's collections.

The presentation of the Congress Medal and the signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists will take place at Temple Newsam House, and the banquet will be held in the War Gallery at the Royal Armouries.

For further information visit www.gbcongress.org



ABOVE: Leeds' Maltese cross cancellation, type 1, on a cover posted to London in October 1843

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By Andrew McGavin, Managing Director, Universal Philatelic Auctions (UPA)

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- 2. Stamp Industry's BIGGEST problem.** ... twenty years ago I started to ponder upon what is the biggest problem faced by the average stamp dealer? The answer came back loud and clear. The biggest problem faced by a stamp dealer is not what sells ... but **what does not sell**. This is the reason why most stamp dealers have lots of unsold stock you have seen time and time again – worse still this is what prevents that dealer from buying new stock to offer you.
- 3. Surface Sell.** There is an actual name for this – it is called 'surface sell' – good material 'floats' on the surface and sells. Less desirable stock sinks so that unless a dealer pays almost nothing to replace his stock then the profit in the business becomes stagnant and bound

in less saleable stock. If only that dealer could move this stock he would have more money to invest in new stock to offer to you.

- 4. Cover-up.** Twenty years ago almost the entire stamp industry spent its time disguising what did not sell – in those days so pernicious were 'unsolds' that it was common practice for one auction house to sell batches of 'unsolds' to another auction where the new auction could present them to (hopefully) different collectors as new lots. 'Passing the Philatelic Parcel' was common practice.
- 5. E-Bay.** Today the philatelic world is almost unrecognisably different. In large part courtesy of the internet. How things have changed. Few 'pass the parcel'. Really active Dealers - these days they **also** sell on eBay - large lots, small lots, all manner of stamps, covers, down to fakes and forgeries – today's equivalent of the Wild West – there's philatelic 'gold' to be mined in those hills ... but Boy – you have to work to find it and sadly 'all that glistens is not gold' – you pays your money and you takes your chance often with little support or recourse. UPA too sells surpluses on eBay backed by support and our guarantee – access eBay links via www.upastampauctions.co.uk

Continued on page 25...

CHINA 1882 **First-issue multiple**



The Kelleher & Rogers auction in Hong Kong featured this year's most spectacular find: three large mint blocks of the top value from the 'Large Dragons' first issue of China, the 5ca yellow-ochre.

The top price was fetched by a block of 19 from setting 3, the second largest multiple known to survive from the 1882 printing on thin paper, which makes it one of the most important pieces in Chinese philately.

The three blocks lay undiscovered in an English attic for well over a century after being brought back from Shanghai by an English missionary, and were dubbed the 'Lady Cotswolds Missionary Find'.

Spare a thought for the vendor who got 'only' £79,000 for them in a non-specialist auction in Gloucestershire in January!

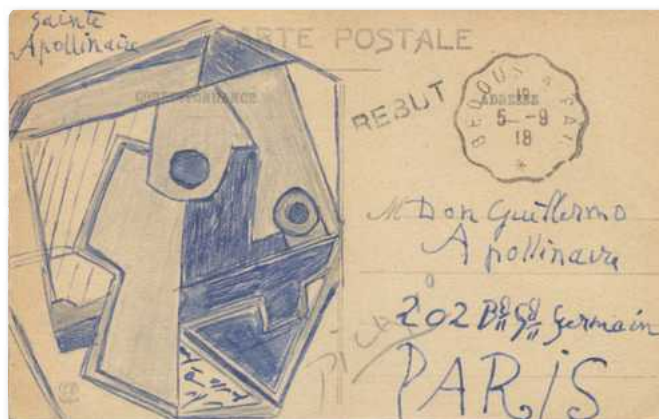
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FRANCE 1918 **Postcard illustrated by Picasso**

A postcard written and illustrated by the Spanish artist Pablo Picasso unsurprisingly caught the eye at Gärtner's sale, selling for 50% more than its estimate.

Written in September 1918 to the poet and art critic Guillaume Apollinaire, it is adorned with a cubist



portrait of Apollinaire signed by Picasso. This appears to have been the basis for a painting entitled *Huile et Sable*, which is housed in the Guggenheim Museum in New York.

Sent from Bedous in south-west France to the capital, Paris, in the latter stages of World War I, the card never reached the addressee, and is postmarked 'Rebut' (rejected).

SOLD BY CHRISTOPH GÄRTNER £118,767

EGYPT 1867 **Unique combination cover**

Corinphila's auction of the Peter Smith collections of Egypt and Sudan saw many rare covers attract competitive bidding, which lasted until well after midnight. The belle of the ball was one of the great exhibition pieces of classic Egypt.

This 1867 cover from Jeddah (now in Saudi Arabia) to Suez has the only known combination franking of stamps from Egypt's first and second issues.



The sender originally affixed an 1866 2pi yellow, with the issue's characteristic inscriptions over the design in black. An 1867 1pi red, illustrating the Sphinx and a pyramid, was added later, when it was realised that the letter was triple-weight.

The estimate of £10,000 was annihilated as the cover sold for well over five times that.

SOLD BY CORINPHILA £55,823

WÜRTTEMBERG 1873 **Largest known multiple of 70k top value**

A unique item of Württemberg postal history came up at Gärtner: a piece of parcel card franked with eight of the 1873 70k violet, which was by far the German state's highest value stamp.

A 24kg parcel from Stuttgart to Vienna was pre-paid with a block of six and a further pair of these stamps, the former being the largest known multiple.

Indeed, it is the largest possible multiple, as the stamps were printed in sheetlets of six, imperforate but with dotted-line divisions between them to help postal staff cut them neatly.

Württemberg switched its currency from kreuzer to marks in 1875.

SOLD BY GÄRTNER £53,659



GERMAN EAST AFRICA 1916

Unique usage of the 1r

Only about 40 examples of the German East Africa 1916 1r carmine are known used, and Gärtner offered the only one on parcel card.

Limited stocks of the stamp, which was printed in Germany with the Yacht key-type colonial design, had been sneaked through the Royal Navy's blockade in March 1916 by the supply ship *Marie*.

This was the last issue of the German colony, which was placed under a British mandate at the end of World War I as Tanganyika, and is now Tanzania.

SOLD BY GÄRTNER £35,773



AUSTRALIA 1913

£1 with JBC monogram

The section of Mossgreen's sale devoted to Australia's famous Kangaroo & Map definitive series included this fine 1913-14 first-watermark marginal example of the £1 brown and ultramarine with the monogram of the printer, J B Cooke.

Only five mint copies exist, and only two of them are in private hands, so this is not an opportunity which comes up often.

Interestingly, the auction also offered bidders the chance to buy the same stamp with the similarly rare Commonwealth of Australia monogram, and it sold for exactly the same price.

SOLD BY MOSSGREEN £27,908



CHINA 1949

Meter strips on cover

Regency Superior sold a remarkable 1949 cover from Canton in China to Colorado in the USA, with one of the largest known frankings of meter mark strips from the city.

Registered on May 10, 1949, soon after the Nationalist Government relocated to Canton after losing control of Beijing to the communists, it has 10 overlapping strips (five on the front and five on the back) from Canton's machine No2, with its flying goose identifier.

The lack of a date printed in the circular element indicates that they were sold over the counter as a provisional measure because of a shortage of suitable stamps.

Together with six postage stamps (three on the front and three on the back), they pay a total of \$15,350,000 in postage, during the period of hyperinflation at the end of the civil war.

SOLD BY REGENCY SUPERIOR £9,298



INDIA 1895

High-value colour trials

Spink's sale of the 'Lionheart' collection included a stunning set of 20 colour trials for India's 1895 high values.

Printed in a wide variety of two-colour combinations, they were all 2r denominations in the new large-format design, with its portrait of Queen Victoria by Heinrich von Angeli.

The stamps eventually issued were a 2r carmine and brown, a 3r brown and green and a 5r ultramarine and violet.

SOLD BY SPINK £8,000



GB 1900 1s official with inverted overprint

The Great Britain section of Spink's latest instalment of the 'Lionheart' collection included a scarce variety of a late-Victorian official stamp: the 1s green and carmine from the 1887 series with its 'Govt Parcels' overprint inverted.

The stamp, which was issued in 1900, was used on a Mount Pleasant Parcel Office piece and postmarked with a London grid cancellation.

SOLD BY SPINK £7,500



GB 1890 Railway letter overprint essays

Grosvenor's sale of the collection of railway stamps put together by Roger de Lacy-Spencer attracted strong bidding from around the world, with essay material proving especially popular.

One highlight was this set of 1890 trials for British railway letter stamps, comprising three different styles of overprint in black on the 1887-92 Queen Victoria 3d purple on yellow definitive.

**SOLD BY
GROSVENOR
£5,800**



CANADA 1927 Black proofs on card

Brigham's sale of Canadian material from the reigns of George V, Edward VIII and George VI might have been small, but it was high on quality.

One of the top realisations was for a presentation card mounted with a complete set of imperforate black proofs for the 1927 60th Anniversary of Confederation commemorative issue, complete with its accompanying special delivery stamp.

It is thought to be the only such presentation card in private hands.

SOLD BY BRIGHAM £5,647



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 1900 Siege of Mafeking cover

Grosvenor's sale of the exceptional Guy Leroux collection of Boer War postal history contained many rare items, with the top price fetched by a cover from the siege of Mafeking.

Addressed to Scotland on April 10, 1900, it has a block of four Cape of Good Hope 1d stamps with the 'Mafeking besieged' type 1 (serifed) overprint and 3d surcharge, as used from March 23 to April 28 only.

The stamps pre-paid the postage for the so-called 'northern route' out of the British stronghold, and the reverse of the cover has datestamps for Crocodile Pools and Bulawayo (now in Zimbabwe). It also has an Inverurie arrival datestamp of June 9.

SOLD BY GROSVENOR £1,700



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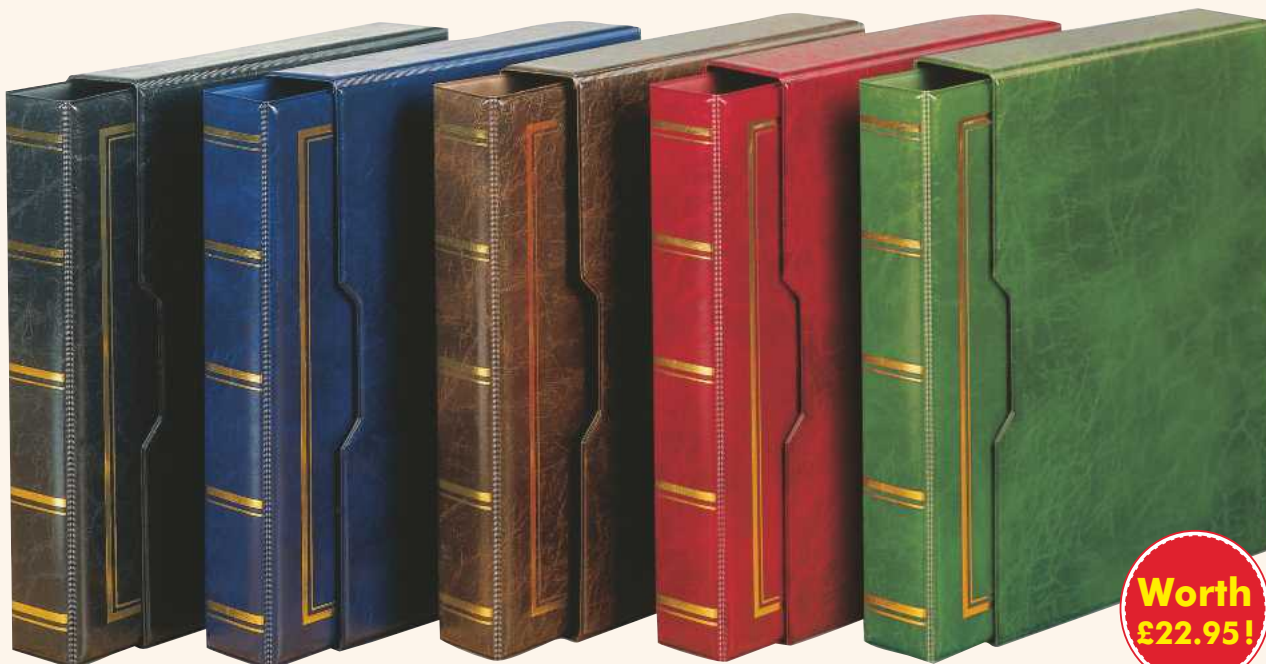
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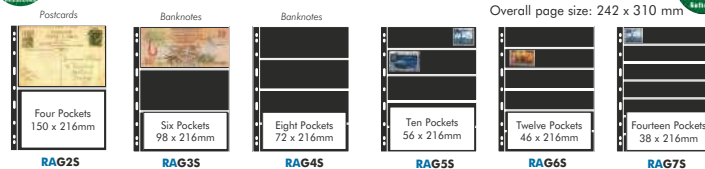
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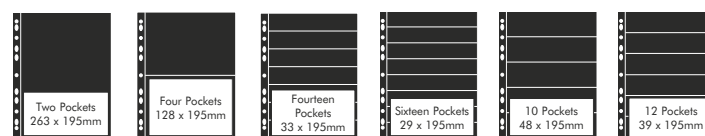
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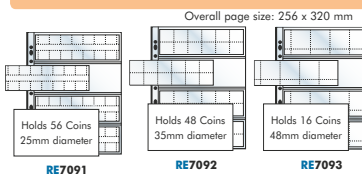


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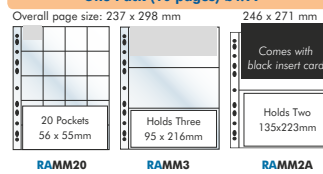
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So much owed by so many to so few



Royal Mail will release a six-stamp miniature sheet commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain on July 16.

The first major battle in history fought entirely in the air was contested over southern England from July to October 1940. It proved a key turning point in World War II, as the Royal Air Force denied Germany's Luftwaffe the air superiority which was the prerequisite of an attempt to invade.

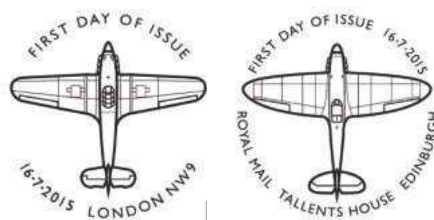
Unlike the famous 25th anniversary issue of 1965, the stamps feature photographic images, all monochrome, and focus mainly on the people involved, including fighter pilots, ground crew, observers and operations room staff. Only one design shows aircraft in flight.

The border, also based on a monochrome photograph, depicts Prime Minister Winston Churchill visiting a coastal defence position near Hartlepool on July 31, 1940, and reproduces his famous quote that 'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few'.

The stamps were designed by The Team, and the miniature sheet by Supple Studio. The issue was printed in litho by International Security Printers.

1st class

RAF fighter pilots rush to their Hawker Hurricanes after receiving the 'scramble' call to engage enemy aircraft.



PRICES

Miniature sheet	£5.88
Presentation pack	£6.40
Stamp cards	£3.15
First day cover	£7.53

VERDICT

COMMEMORATIVE WORTH ★★★★★

This was a key moment in British history, although it's odd that the 75th anniversary is being marked, when the 50th wasn't

QUALITY OF DESIGN ★★★★★

It's an interesting set of photographs, but it lacks action and dynamism

WOW FACTOR ★★★★★

This is a low-key commemoration in comparison with the iconic 1965 set, but a different approach was necessary

1st class

Supermarine Spitfires of 610 Squadron, based at Biggin Hill in Kent, patrol the skies in close formation.

1st class

Armourer Fred Roberts re-arms a Spitfire while its pilot, Sergeant Bernard Jennings, talks to his mechanic.

£1.33

New recruits as spotters for the Auxiliary Territorial Service receive their first lesson in identifying enemy aircraft.

£1.33

The Operations Room at Bentley Priory in north-west London, the headquarters of RAF Fighter Command, was the hub of a complex air defence system.

£1.33

Fighter pilots of 32 Squadron relax between flying missions at RAF Hawkinge in Kent.

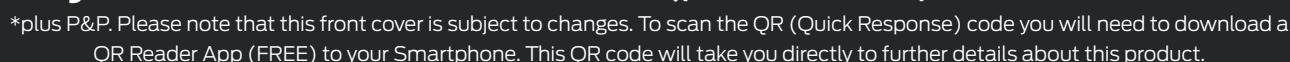
OTHER PRODUCTS

In the presentation pack, which is designed to recall the posters and publications of the era, Peter Devitt, Curator of the RAF Museum at Hendon, describes how the Battle of Britain unfolded and celebrates the key people and aircraft involved.

Stamps cards and a first day cover are available as usual, and a special coin cover will be issued on September 15.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

► Days after announcing that was planning to sell off its remaining 30% stake in Royal Mail, the Government sold the first 15% to city investors in June, raising about £750m. Staff and members of the public were excluded from the offer.

► Robert Gillmor, who created the lino-cut illustrations of birds and farm animals for the Post & Go sets of 2010-12, has been awarded an MBE for services to wildlife art.

► The British Postal Museum & Archive has been awarded funding grants by Viridor Credits and the AIM Biffa Award in support of its plans to open the underground Mail Rail to the public as part of the new Postal Museum.

► One of the sites being opened up to the public through an initiative called Hidden Spaces is an underground railway under Birmingham city centre. It was used from the 1970s to the 1990s to transfer parcels on electric carriages between the sorting office and New Street Station.

► A re-enactment on June 3-4 marked the 100th anniversary of the last horse-drawn mail coach run in Britain, between Kingussie and Tulloch in the Scottish Highlands. Motorised transport replaced the service in May 1915.

► The new Chairman of the Trustees of the BPMA is Rick Wills, formerly of British Airways, Thomson Travel and the London Eye.

Postbox plaques for 50 special stamps

As part of Royal Mail's celebration of what it considers to be the 50th anniversary of the start of the modern special stamp programme, plaques illustrating some of its most popular designs are being mounted on 50 postboxes around the UK.

Each plaque has a connection with the city, town or village where the postbox is located, usually by featuring a local landmark or someone who was born there. It is hoped that they will attract interest from locals and tourists alike.

The stamp subjects range from Winston Churchill to Bagpuss, the Giant's Causeway to Wembley Stadium, and the Tenby lifeboat to St Andrews golf course.

Following the initial announcement at the beginning of June, the plaques were being mounted piecemeal throughout the month, with unveilings by local dignitaries typically attracting plenty of press coverage in local newspapers.

Historic personalities who will be celebrated include Sir Walter Scott in Kelso, C S Lewis in Belfast, Richard Arkwright in Preston and Dylan Thomas in Swansea, while modern celebrities will include Andy Murray in Dunblane and Jessica Ennis in Sheffield. Fictional characters are honoured too, such as Sherlock Holmes in Baker Street, London, and Wallace and Gromit in Bristol.

Various famous landmarks will have plaques mounted near them, such as the Blackpool Tower, Edinburgh Castle, Llandudno Pier and York Minster. Institutions which will be fêted in a similar way include the Meteorological Office in Exeter, the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) in Woking and the BBC in London.

'We are delighted to be creating new points of interest around the UK in celebration of our stamp heritage,' said Andrew Hammond, Royal Mail's Director of Stamps & Collectibles.



ABOVE: What links Woking with polar bears? The Surrey town is the UK headquarters of the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)

FIRST DELIVERIES

Postbox plaques reported as having been unveiled during the first two weeks of the project include:

Woking	WWF	Jun 3
Cardiff	Millennium Centre	Jun 10
Londonderry	Peace Bridge	Jun 11
Brixton	Mary Seacole	Jun 11
Dunblane	Andy Murray	Jun 12
Plymouth	Eddystone Lighthouse	Jun 12
Wrexham	Pontcysyllte Aqueduct	Jun 12
Blackpool	Blackpool Tower	Jun 15
Alloway	Robert Burns	Jun 15
Canterbury	Bagpuss	Jun 19
Swansea	Dylan Thomas	Jun 19
Kidderminster	Severn Valley Railway	Jun 20
Kelso	Walter Scott	Jun 24

COVER OF THE MONTH



Bradbury has produced a dynamic Battle of Britain cover which combines one of the 2015 set with all eight stamps from the 1965 issue.

The background image is of a squadron of British fighter planes flying over St Paul's Cathedral as it is lit up by fires after a bombing raid, and the pictorial postmark is of Spitfire Road, Birmingham.

Covers can be pre-ordered at £15. Visit www.bfdc.co.uk

Artist's ceramic salute to Arnold Machin

One of the star exhibits at Staffordshire University's annual degree show for art and design students in Stoke-on-Trent was this celebration of Arnold Machin, who was born locally.

Clearly inspired by the Machin definitive, Sean Sargent's collage replaces the portrait of the Queen with that of Machin himself. It was created using broken ceramic tiles, in recognition of Machin's background working in ceramics in the industrial region nicknamed The Potteries.

Machin's effigy of the Queen has been in constant use on Great Britain's definitive stamps since 1967, and is claimed to be the most reproduced work of art in history.

Sargent said: 'Most people probably aren't aware that Arnold Machin came from Stoke. He's an unsung hero, and I wanted to celebrate the back story and heritage of the local area.'

The Show & Tell 2015 exhibition showcased the work of hundreds of final-year students during June.



SEAN SARGENT/STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

First World War designs voted the best of 2014

The First World War 1914 issue swept the board in the poll of Britain's most popular stamps of 2014, conducted by Royal Mail's *Philatelic Bulletin* magazine.

The issue's Poppy, Private Tickle and For The Fallen 1st class designs came first, second and third in the vote, with the Paddington Bear stamp from the Classic Children's TV set fourth.

The First World War set as a whole was named the readers' favourite, with the Buckingham Palace set second.



HOT OFF THE PRESS



Don Staddon has the inside line on British stamp printings, post office supplies and developments in postal mechanisation

DEFINITIVE PRINTINGS

Of the gummed pane of definitives which featured in the Battle of Waterloo prestige stamp book, the 5p already existed with the 'M15L' year code from the First World War PSB issued in May, while the 10p, 50p and £1 are new catalogue entries.

A new printing of the 10p self-adhesive has also been reported with a 2015 year code in the security overlay.

SLOGAN POSTMARKS

Royal Mail used slogan postmarks in June to mark the Magna Carta and Battle of Waterloo anniversaries on June 15 and June 18, and Armed Forces Day on June 27.

POST & GO MACHINES

The M002 Post & Go vending machine has been moved from the enquiry office at Crewe to the one at Mount Pleasant in London, where it went into operation on June 3, selling Machin-design 1st class stamps with no year code and 2nd class stamps with the 'MA12' year code. The overprint has no location identifier.

We understand that the M001 machine has been redeployed for testing purposes, at a venue which is not open to the public.

POST & GO VARIETIES

Several varieties have been reported on Post & Go stamps from the machine at the British Postal Museum & Archive in London.

They include a line of text indented by one character and the last full stop missing from the location identifier. The stamps affected include those with the Anthony Trollope commemorative inscription.

COLLECTABLES BROCHURE

A handsome 86-page full-colour brochure promoting Royal Mail collectables of all kinds has been sent to subscribers to the philatelic service.

Entitled Collections Summer 15, it includes all of the latest special stamp issues, as well as medal covers (but not standard first day covers), gold coin collections, framed stamps, books, albums, place mats, pin badges and teddy bears. There are even some Canadian stamps!

The customer service telephone number is not that of Tallents House in Edinburgh, but 03457 641641.

OFCOM REVIEW

Ofcom, the communications watchdog, has announced that it is to review how Royal Mail is regulated after Whistl, its biggest competitor in the direct delivery of letters, withdrew from the market in May.

That could mean the return of a cap on increases in the price of 1st class stamps. Price rises for 2nd class stamps are already linked to the rate of inflation.

Ofcom is concerned that, without competition, Royal Mail might become less efficient, which in the long term could threaten the universal postal service.

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72	£27.50	£0.80	117	£18.00	£0.50	162	£18.75	£1.40	205	£15.00	£0.60
73	£27.50	£0.60	118	£20.00	£0.50	163	£18.75	£0.60	206	£15.00	£1.80
74	£27.50	£0.50	119	£18.00	£0.50	164	£17.50	£0.60	207	£15.00	£1.80
76	£27.50	£0.50	120	£11.50	£0.50	165	£18.75	£0.50	208	£15.00	£3.20
78	£27.50	£0.50	121	£16.00	£1.90	166	£11.50	£1.20	209	£15.00	£1.80
79	£18.75	£0.50	122	£11.50	£0.50	167	£11.50	£0.50	210	£19.50	£2.40
80	£18.00	£0.50	123	£16.00	£0.50	168	£12.50	£1.40	211	£23.00	£5.75
81	£20.00	£0.55	124	£11.50	£0.50	169	£15.00	£1.40	212	£19.50	£2.25
82	£85.00	£0.80	125	£16.00	£0.50	170	£11.50	£0.50	213	£19.50	£2.25
83	£95.00	£1.50	127	£22.00	£0.55	171	£11.50	£0.50	214	£19.50	£3.60
84	£27.50	£0.55	129	£16.00	£1.60	172	£11.50	£0.50	215	£19.50	£3.60
85	£16.00	£0.55	130	£22.00	£0.55	173	£17.50	£1.80	216	£19.50	£3.60
86	£20.00	£0.50	131	£26.00	£3.20	174	£11.50	£0.50	217	£19.50	£1.50
87	£13.75	£0.50	132	£95.00	£10.00	175	£15.00	£0.70	218	£19.50	£1.75
88	£130.00	£2.00	133	£60.00	£3.00	176	£17.50	£0.55	219	£38.50	£25.00
89	£16.00	£0.50	134	£11.50	£0.50	177	£15.00	£0.50	220	£12.50	£1.50
90	£16.00	£0.50	135	£38.00	£5.25	178	£19.50	£0.70	221	£17.50	£4.00
91	£22.00	£1.20	136	£36.00	£4.00	179	£15.00	£0.55	222	£23.00	£14.00
92	£16.50	£0.50	137	£11.00	£0.55	180	£20.00	£1.00	223	£37.50	£25.00
93	£20.00	£0.50	138	£11.50	£0.50	181	£11.50	£0.50	224	£40.00	£25.00
94	£18.00	£1.00	139	£24.00	£3.50	182	£32.50	£1.00	225	£950.00	£280.00
95	£16.00	£0.50	140	£11.50	£0.50	183	£19.50	£0.60			
96	£18.00	£0.50	141	£44.00	£1.80	184	£11.50	£0.50	SG48/9	1/4d	Plates
97	£16.00	£0.70	142	£28.00	£4.80	185	£19.50	£0.60	1	£50.00	£13.75
98	£20.00	£1.20	143	£18.75	£3.00	186	£15.00	£0.55	3	£35.00	£3.00
99	£22.00	£1.00	144	£39.50	£4.00	187	£15.00	£0.50	4	£30.00	£2.25
100	£24.00	£0.75	145	£12.00	£0.55	188	£19.50	£2.00	5	£20.00	£1.75
101	£24.00	£1.80	146	£16.00	£1.20	189	£19.50	£1.40	6	£20.00	£1.75
102	£16.00	£0.50	147	£20.00	£0.60	190	£15.00	£1.20	8	£50.00	£11.50
103	£20.00	£0.70	148	£16.00	£0.60	191	£11.50	£1.40	9	£1200.00	£150.00
104	£32.50	£1.00	149	£16.00	£1.20	192	£15.00	£0.50	10	£20.00	£1.75
105	£37.50	£1.50	150	£11.50	£0.50	193	£12.50	£0.50	11	£20.00	£1.75
106	£22.00	£0.50	151	£20.00	£1.80	194	£15.00	£2.00	12	£20.00	£1.75
107	£24.00	£1.50	152	£15.00	£1.10	195	£15.00	£2.00	13	£20.00	£1.75
108	£36.00	£0.55	153	£45.00	£2.00	196	£15.00	£1.00	14	£20.00	£1.75
109	£35.00	£0.70	154	£15.00	£0.50	197	£20.00	£1.80	15	£20.00	£2.75
110	£24.00	£1.80	155	£15.00	£0.55	198	£11.50	£1.20	19	£40.00	£6.00
111	£29.00	£0.55	156	£15.00	£0.50	199	£17.50	£1.20	20	£47.50	£9.50
112	£28.00	£0.55	157	£15.00	£0.50	200	£15.00	£0.50			
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...Continued from page 13

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Letters

GET IN TOUCH

These pages are devoted to giving you the opportunity to have your say. Whether you want to praise or complain, suggest or advise, add information or correct it, or just get something off your chest, we'd love to hear from you.

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The Editor reads all letters, but is unable to answer them all personally. We reserve the right to edit letters for publication.

Putting up prices is an obvious recourse in a monopoly position

In response to John Crace's Devil's Advocate column (June issue, page 35), yes, stamp sales are of course subsidising Britain's parcel service. There's no surprise about that!

John is also right to note that the falling price of fuel, probably Royal Mail's biggest cost after wages, should have meant that a stamp price hike was unnecessary.

However, this is the real world, a world where profit is paramount. Since privatisation, the company's share price has taken precedence over everything else. It is called 'free enterprise'.

As far as delivering letters is concerned, Royal Mail has a monopoly position (the holy grail in a free-market economy), so putting up the price of letter-rate stamps was a no-brainer.

I suspect postage rates will continue to rise in the future, even if post offices prefer to use those horrible labels which are a lot cheaper to produce than pretty commemoratives.

Andrew Martin, Weymouth

LETTER OF THE MONTH

At the front of the queue for the limited-edition Penny Black souvenir

I sympathise with Ian Billings of Norvic Philatelics (July issue, page 27), who has been most helpful to me in the past, in his assertion that the issue of the limited-edition 175th Anniversary of the Penny Black miniature sheet at London 2015 Europhilex was mishandled.

I also sympathise with the suggestion by Mike Dornbrock (July issue, page 28) that international stamp exhibitions should be held elsewhere than London from time to time, to attract collectors from different parts of Britain.

However, being fortunate enough to live conveniently close to the venue in north London, and having volunteered to assist at Europhilex as a meeter and greeter, I have a different perspective.

I was able to achieve what for me was a first: not being on duty until 11am on the first day, I was able to get to the Royal Mail stand at 9.30am, when the counter staff were still being briefed prior to the 10am opening time.

Not only was I at the front of the queue for the special miniature sheet; for a few delicious moments, I was the queue!

The counter clerk who served me commented on how lucky I was to be able to buy sheets 0002, 0003 and 0004, explaining that 0001 had been sent to the Queen for the Royal Philatelic Collection.

On the last day of the exhibition I purchased another three sheets, numbered in the 3000s, but it never occurred to me to join the queue more than once on the same day to try to purchase extra copies.

I have decided to sell the later-numbered sheets and retain the early-numbered ones — although I must confess I don't really understand why the early numbers should be considered of any special significance.

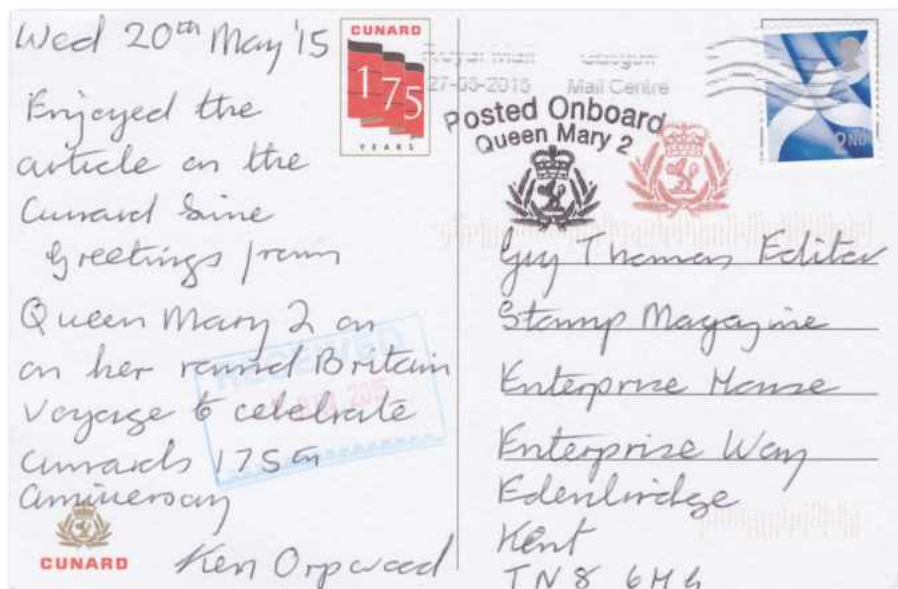
David Sherman, via e-mail

Reading about the Cunard Line on board a Cunard ship

Enjoyed the article on the Cunard Line.

Greetings from *Queen Mary 2* on her round-Britain voyage to celebrate Cunard's 175th anniversary.

Ken Orpwood, posted on board *Queen Mary 2*



SOAPBOX

Are Post & Go stamps being discredited by overseas territories which adopt them purely for philatelic purposes? Graham Knight sees no sense in Gibraltar's recent issue

An interesting post by Ian Billings on his well-informed Norvic Philatelics blog (www.blog.norphil.co.uk) at the end of May illustrated perfectly why the current fad for Post & Go stamps might soon fade away.

Many collectors are growing tired with the exploitative nonsense that surrounds these issues, especially now that overseas postal authorities such as Jersey, Guernsey and Gibraltar have got involved.

STRANGE ARRANGEMENT

Two weeks before Gibraltar joined the Post & Go brigade, with the GI01 vending machine at London 2015 Europhilex, Ian had asked for details of what would be available. The Royal Gibraltar Post Office had been unable to tell him.

At the event, Ian had checked to see whether any stamps from a 'back-office' machine or first day cancellations were available from the Gibraltar Stamps stand. None were.

Several weeks later, he was bemused to be informed that the Gibraltar philatelic bureau was offering stamps with a 'GI' country code, from the B002 machine, and first day covers.

Although we know that most modern first day covers are not produced on the day of issue but prepared in advance, Ian wondered whether this was the first case of one which was not available from either the philatelic bureau or an exhibition stand on the day of issue, but contrived two weeks later?

To make matters worse, as he pointed out, the B002 machine is located in Bristol, so it is only pretending to be a Gibraltar machine. There is no public-access Post & Go kiosk in the colony; indeed, it is thought there is no kiosk of any kind there. So the stamps weren't printed in Gibraltar, and the data-string printed on them is bogus.

What happened to the kiosk that was at Europhilex? At the



ABOVE: Collector's strip of six Post & Go stamps issued in the name of Gibraltar, but printed in Britain, launched and marketed in Britain, and not available from any public vending machine in Gibraltar itself

end of the exhibition it was moved not to Gibraltar but to Gibraltar House (the territory's representative office in London), leaving the RGPO in the bizarre position of sanctioning stamps which are valid for postage only in Gibraltar but on public sale only in Britain.

DEFEATING THE POINT

The widespread use of machine-dispensed stamps by the public is logical and sensible, and I for one welcome having rapid access to a self-service kiosk in a post office rather than facing a long queue at the counter. Clearly, however, the philatelic side of Post & Go has now become nonsensical.

It seems to me to be ridiculous to buy stamps items with a country's name printed on them if the country in question does not have even one post office outlet for them. When they are sold only in a foreign country, where they are not valid for postage, how can they be considered postage stamps?

The machine identified as the source of the examples being sold by Gibraltar Stamps is situated 1,500 miles from Gibraltar, so it is unlikely to be useful to any Gibraltarians. And how many British tourists who are planning to visit Gibraltar will decide they must first go into the centre of London especially to buy stamps to take with them and use on postcards?

The kiosk at Gibraltar House serves no practical purpose for anyone who wants to send mail. It is simply a means of increasing philatelic revenue.

QUESTIONABLE STATUS

The *raison d'être* of Post & Go is that you buy your stamps quickly and conveniently for your postal needs. Having the vending machine situated in another country makes a mockery of that.

Such restricted access tends to be a reason for stamps not being listed in reputable catalogues.

Graham Knight

Centenary stamps on 1890 postal stationery...

To complement the covers illustrated in your feature about Great Britain's 1940 Centenary of Postage Stamps set (June issue, page 54), here's one from my collection.

It is the 2½d value with a London Stamp Centenary Exhibition cancel, on an 1890 Post Office Jubilee postal stationery envelope.

Daniel de Perrot,
via e-mail



...on a 1940 first day cover interrupted by war...

Having enjoyed your feature on the postal usage of the 1940 Centenary stamps, I thought your readers might like to see this interesting example.

This is a registered first day cover posted from the special stamp exhibition in Bournemouth to The Hague in the Netherlands on May 6. Although the German invasion of the Netherlands did not commence until May 10, the letter (which was inspected by a censor) was undelivered and handstamped 'No service/Return to sender'.

W R Violen, Holland-on-Sea



...and on the Stamp World 1990 exhibition souvenir sheet

As a follow-up to your feature on the 1940 Centenary issue, I thought it might be worth reminding your readers that unadopted essays for the stamps by Edmund Dulac and by Harrison & Sons were reproduced on the special souvenir sheet sold at the Stamp World international exhibition in London in 1990.

The issued design by H L Palmer of Harrisons also appears on the sheet, at bottom right.

Sean Giles, London



Missing cylinder numbers do not prove errors are genuine

In a recent Auction Highlights report on a modern Great Britain missing colour error (June issue, page 16), you stated that the missing cylinder number in the selvage proved it was a genuine printing error.

This is bad philatelic analysis. Any faker removing the colour successfully from a stamp would certainly be able to remove the cylinder number in the same colour.

I do not suggest that this particular item was other than genuine. As a general rule, however, such 'proving pieces' should be treated with the same caution as any other missing colour error, and of course are in equal need of an expert certificate.

Ian Harvey, via e-mail

The days of 2d stamp duty on receipts, cheques and more

One of the illustrations in your feature about Great Britain's 1940 Centenary of Postage Stamps (June issue, page 58), was a reminder that 2d stamps were regularly used for revenue purposes at the time.

Anyone settling an account for £2 or more was legally entitled to a receipt, with the cost borne by the supplier.

Cheques of any value also attracted 2d stamp duty, with revenue stamps embossed on them, although in the 1960s these were replaced by a simple printed symbol.

Withdrawing funds from deposit accounts attracted duty too, and bank cashiers kept stocks of 2d stamps for this purpose.

This stamp duty was abolished upon decimalisation in 1971, due to fears that the new currency would fuel inflation.

John Mayne, Bridgnorth

HOT TOPICS

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LEST WE FORGET

The 75th anniversary Battle of Britain issue had no hope of living up to the 25th anniversary issue, because later generations have a way of glossing over the everyday horrors of war

The daily reminders that I'm getting old I can deal with: the becoming a bit deaf, the knees creaking and the realisation that the wrinkly face looking back at me from the mirror is really me. These are all familiar signs of decrepitude which have lost their power of surprise.

It's the unexpected that stops me in my tracks. Like the announcement that Royal Mail is about to issue a set of commemorative stamps to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

I was eight years old, and just beginning my stamp collection, when the famous issue celebrating the 25th anniversary was released in 1965.

I remember being awestruck by the brilliance of their designs. The pared-down graphics of the set of six 4d stamps seemed to capture perfectly both the terror and the danger of aerial combat.

It also took me an age to persuade my mother to part with the cash I needed to acquire the 9d and 1s 3d stamps to complete the set. 'What? Two shillings? For stamps you're never going to use?' she asked.

Now 91 years old, my mum has never really lost the spirit of rationing. But then my parents were both veterans of the war. She had served on the home front in the Women's Royal Naval Service, only narrowly surviving being killed in an air raid on Portsmouth. He had been in the Royal Navy, and three boats he had served in had been sunk.

What finally persuaded my

mum to part with two shillings was a combination of my persistence and the iconic nature of the 1s 3d design. Vapour trails surrounding St Paul's Cathedral was an image she remembered only too well herself.

Revisiting that 1965 issue, something else occurs to me, an insight made possible only by the passing of the years.

With so few veterans of World War II still alive, there's an increasing tendency to sentimentalise the conflict. To concentrate on the acts of

heroism, rather than the everyday tragedy, squalor and even boredom of the war. Yet there was nothing sentimental about the 1965 stamps. The 4d values depicted aerial warfare as it was: up-close and visceral, Spitfires and Hurricanes locking wings with Messerschmitts and Heinkels.

Nor would veterans have wanted it any other way. My parents were always desperate that there should be no glossing over the horrors of the war, as had happened after World War I. They would probably have quite



THE AUTHOR
John Crace is a GB collector specialising in early booklet panes, and a newspaper columnist

liked one of the stamps to depict a plane crashing in flames, as the 9d stamp almost did. Lest we forget.

Predictably, the 75th anniversary designs do not come close to the brilliance of the 1965 issue. They are full of real people, going about their important work, but they are

more soft-focused and abstract. There is no sign of any actual fighting going on. This is what now passes for respectful, but it is all too often a later generation's way of forgetting.

In 1965 I had barely a thought about what was going to happen to me the following week, let alone in 50 years' time. It never occurred to me that I would live long enough for the Royal Mail to issue

a second set of

commemorative stamps for the Battle of Britain.

I don't have to worry about being around for the 900th anniversary of Magna Carta, but who knows what else might come round again? Next year will be the 50th anniversary of England winning the World Cup, which brings back more memories of my youth.

I distinctly remember my local stamp dealer saying, 'You'll have to get the England Winners issue, son. That will be a rarity.' It turns out he was right, though not perhaps in the way he meant. ■



ABOVE: Block of four of the 4d designs from the 1965 Battle of Britain set, capturing the terrifying essence of aerial combat

'There's an increasing tendency to sentimentalise World War II, to concentrate on acts of heroism rather than the everyday terror and squalor. Yet there was nothing sentimental about the 1965 stamps'

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you agree with John Crace that the time that has elapsed since an event inevitably affects the way it is commemorated? E-mail your comments to guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com

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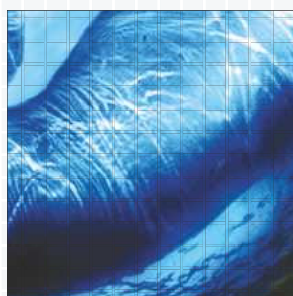
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COMPETITION

Spot The Stamp

Take a close look at the enlarged detail of a GB stamp shown on the right. If you can identify which stamp it's from, you could win a copy of *British Stamp Market Values 2015*, the authoritative annual price guide from the publishers of *Stamp Magazine*.



All you have to do is tell us which stamp it is, including its value, the name of the set it is from and the year of issue. Send your answer on a postcard (or sealed envelope) with your name, address and telephone number, to Spot The Stamp (Aug), *Stamp Magazine*, PO Box 269, Haslingden, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 0DJ.



The closing date for entries is August 13, 2015, and the first correct answer drawn from our postbag after that date will win the book. Good luck!



May's answer

The Spot The Stamp winner from the May issue is John Ashton from Tintagel, who correctly identified the mystery stamp (left) as a 19p value from the 1989 Anniversaries & Events set, celebrating the Third Direct Elections to the European Parliament.

COMPETITION WINNERS

Penny Black presentation pack

In our May issue, we offered you the chance to win a presentation pack of the 175th Anniversary of the Penny Black issue, courtesy of Royal Mail.

We asked you what were the check letters on a Penny Black from the bottom right corner of a sheet, and the answer was TL.

The 12 lucky winners whose correct answers were drawn at random were S Beckman from Llantwit Major, Matthew Bedell from Bingley, R Cormack from Blairgowrie, Fergal Walters from Llanelli, Bill Gamble from Saltburn, David Sharpe from Haverhill, Sophie Battle from Eastbourne, Douglas Dykes from Fort William, Stephen Teuma from Mitcham, Rod Ash from Leeds, Jeremy Farmer from Bristol, and Rachel Dawson from Aberdeen.

Congratulations to you all. Prizes will be posted out shortly.



WIN



a Battle of Britain presentation pack



We have a presentation pack of the Battle of Britain stamp issue to give away to each of 12 lucky winners, courtesy of Royal Mail.

The six-stamp miniature sheet recalls the exploits of air crew, ground crew, spotters and operations room staff, through

photographs taken in 1940 (see page 20).

To enter, simply answer the question below, fill in the coupon and send it to the address shown.

The closing date is August 13, 2015, and the winners will be drawn at random after that date.

QUESTION

Which legendary Battle of Britain fighter aircraft was built by Supermarine?

Terms & Conditions: Entry is open to UK residents with a permanent UK address, except employees (and their families) of MyTimeMedia, its printers and agents, the suppliers of the prizes and any other companies associated with the competitions. Winners must be aged 18 or over. Only one entry per household is permissible. No responsibility can be accepted for entries lost, damaged or delayed in the post. Winners will be notified by post, telephone or e-mail. Prizes are not transferable to another individual and no cash or other alternatives will be offered. The promoters reserve the right to amend or alter the terms of competitions and reject entries from entrants not entering into the spirit of the competition. Unless stated otherwise, all postal entries must be made on the relevant coupon printed in the magazine. The winners will be chosen from all correct entries received by the closing date stated. The decision of the judges is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

STAMP MAGAZINE BATTLE OF BRITAIN COMPETITION

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Note: A 225g purchase of all 3 of the above can be had for just £95

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BRITISH EMPIRE: A Super mix of only Commems & large. Mostly modern & loaded with Thematics. Just about anything in here regardless of cat. **225g - £45**

GREAT BRITAIN: Charity mix of Small & Large—excellent **425g - £14**

*****BRITISH EMPIRE:** Victoria to Geo VI (they don't make it now!!) This excellent mix is accumulated from our own surpluses, bin ends, stripped collections and other bits & pieces that we don't have time to sort. Limited supplies and again sold by weight. **Approx.2000 to 100g - £55 and 4000 to 225 - £125**

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Foot in the door

After years of domination by gravure, it was The House of Questa that made the breakthrough for litho as an alternative way of printing British stamps, starting in 1980. What was its impact on the security printing market, and on Royal Mail?

As a stand-alone company it operated for less than 20 years, and it ceased to exist altogether more than a decade ago, yet The House of Questa had a huge impact on stamp printing, especially for Great Britain. To this day, it remains synonymous with high-quality lithographic printing.

In the 1980s and 1990s, at a time when most British issues were printed by photogravure, it proved that superb stamps were wholly achievable with litho, and was at the forefront of the development of the process through the introduction of ever-finer screens.

As a result, this ambitious little firm from south London punched above its weight, securing prestigious contracts with Royal Mail and playing a key role in revitalising the market for security printing.

Founding fathers

The catalyst was Wally Rodgers, who had left school at the age of 16 to go into the printing trade, and returned to it after completing his National Service.

By the mid-1960s, having learnt the business from top to bottom, he was the works director at Conventa in Bermondsey, a company that was already utilising the benefits of offset lithography, when he set his sights on starting his own business at the quality end of the printing market.

Wally was introduced to Charles Haswell, who had been works manager of Haycock Press in Camberwell, and was now with 3M in the United States, specialising in lithographic plates and film. It turned out that Charles shared similar ambitions.

Wally's old school pal, Ken McAllan, who had been trained in fine art bookbinding with The Law Society, showed some interest in joining Wally and Charles, and after drawing up a business plan



THE AUTHOR
Richard West researched this feature with the help of the founders of the House of Questa and the British Postal Museum & Archive

BELOW: An early commission from Royal Mail was the first ever stamp card, reproducing the 1973 Centenary of County Cricket 3p design



ABOVE: The founders of The House of Questa, (left to right) Wally Rodgers, Ken McAllan and Charles Haswell



ABOVE: The House of Questa logo was a familiar sight to Great Britain collectors from 1980 to 2003

the three men decided to give up their existing jobs to establish their own company.

Setting up shop

They knew what they needed to get started: a single-colour Heidelberg printing press, the best offset litho press available, and a guillotine.



ABOVE: Questa's first stamps for the Crown Agents were Trinidad & Tobago's Carnival set of 1970



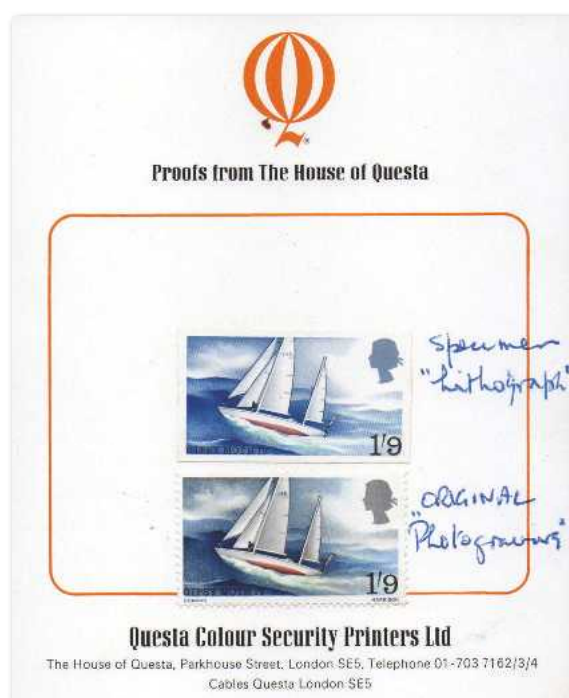
ABOVE: One of its most impressive Commonwealth issues was the 1973 Butterflies sheet for Malawi

'A fruitful relationship with the Crown Agents began in 1970, and Questa moved closer to Royal Mail when it was asked to print the very first stamp card in 1973'

Wally's contacts meant he could get credit from the companies that supplied ink and paper, but the three men would need to raise £500 each, and two of them were initially refused loans. Salvation came from the Manager of Martins Bank at Elephant & Castle, who agreed to provide an overdraft of £1,500, as long as all three offered their homes as collateral.

Premises were found in Bermondsey Street, Camberwell, providing 1,500ft² of floorspace. Decoration and electrical work were undertaken by Wally, Charles and Ken themselves, with help from friends.

Choosing a company name was not easy, as combinations of their three names didn't work, but one day Ken was listening to a Paul Temple whodunnit on his car radio and was intrigued by the name of one of the characters, Richard Quester. It sounded just right, alluding to an ambitious pursuit



ABOVE: Trial printing of the 1967 Francis Chichester stamp, undertaken by Questa in the 1970s at the behest of Royal Mail's head of stamp production as a comparison between gravure and litho

of a goal, and Questa Colour Ltd was born.

Malcolm Johnson, a freelance designer who like Wally had worked for Conventa, created the distinctive Q-shaped 'balloon' logo which would later become recognised throughout the philatelic world.

Extending the house

The new company started trading on June 1, 1966. Its very first job was to print 100,000 lorry drivers' receipts for the builders' merchants Hall & Co.

Wally was the one whose task it was to bring in the business, knocking on doors as necessary. He never approached any of Conventa's clients, but that did not stop them from approaching him. The company quickly established itself as a producer of fine-quality work, and soon it needed extra capacity.

New premises were found at Parkhouse Street in 1969, and another four Heidelberg presses were acquired. Using single-colour presses was not a restraint on the company's abilities; printing in multiple colours simply meant passing paper through the machines more than once, with perfect registration possible as long as temperature was controlled at a consistent 65°F and humidity at a consistent 45%.

It was during this period of growth that the company name evolved into The House of Questa.

First stamps

Ironically the company got its first experience of printing on gummed paper thanks indirectly to Harrison & Sons, the printer which had the contract to produce most of Royal Mail's output by gravure.

A south London neighbour, Caldew Colour Plates, often asked Questa to proof the litho printing plates it produced for various companies, and on one occasion it urgently needed essays of a stamp issue for Yemen, for which it had produced plates on behalf of Harrisons. Questa worked over a bank holiday weekend to print these, in four colours plus gold.

More stamp work followed courtesy of Fouad Antoun, the philatelic agent for several countries in the Middle East, who realised that litho was now providing faster and cheaper

results than ever. However, Questa was not always comfortable with the dubious status of some of the stamps issued for the region, and in some cases decided not to become involved.

In contrast, Wally's approach to the Crown Agents, just when it was looking for more stamp-printing capability for the many countries it represented, led to a long and fruitful relationship.

This started in February 1970, with the five-stamp Carnival Winners set for Trinidad & Tobago which involved multicoloured printing of stamps in two different formats. The printing itself went smoothly, but the issue could easily have ended in embarrassment: despite all the design checks by the Crown Agents and the postal administration, it was not until the presses were about to roll that a Questa employee noticed that the inscription on the 40c value read 'Trinidadad & Tobago' in error!

Questa went on to print a host of stamp issues for British territories and Commonwealth countries, including Ascension, Barbados, Bermuda, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Guyana, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Jersey, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zambia.

A particularly noteworthy issue was the 1973 Butterflies set for Malawi. Precisely matching the artwork for the miniature sheet, which brought together the four different designs in a se-tenant block, required no fewer than 24 colours to be printed in separate passes through a single-colour machine, but not a single error has ever been discovered in this issue.

Besides extra security, which necessitated a major investment in itself, one of the essential requirements of printing stamps was to acquire a Bickell perforating machine. Producing new perforating combs was costly, so the dimensions of stamps were often determined by the combs that were already available.

Royal Mail products

The House of Questa had developed the litho process to the extent that it had become almost indistinguishable from gravure, and its work was noticed by Don Ewers, a print-buyer for the Post Office. After visiting the plant in the early 1970s, he decided to place



RIGHT: Questa's first Great Britain special issue was the 1980 Sport Centenaries set of four. The 13 1/2p, printed in six colours, had a last-minute design tweak





ABOVE & LEFT: At the London 1980 International Exhibition, Wally Rodgers welcomed the Queen to the Questa stand, while Ken McAllen showed Miss World, Gina Swainson, the stamps Questa had printed for Bermuda to celebrate her success in the 1979 beauty contest

commercial work with the company, initially involving posters and other publicity material.

The company was even considered for printing postal stationery, as there were concerns within the Post Office at the time taken for the Royal Mint to produce new embossed dies for certain items. In late 1973 Questa was asked to produce trials of stamp impressions on duplex manila paper and provide quotes for printing stationery, although it was not given the contract.

The company moved one step closer to the world of Royal Mail stamps, however, when it was asked to print the very first stamp card, issued in May 1973, reproducing the Centenary of County Cricket 3p stamp.

Stamp cards established themselves as a popular philatelic product, and soon they were being offered for every stamp design in every issue. The contract to print them remained with Questa for more than 20 years and became a huge undertaking. At its peak, it required 60,000 sheets of cardboard for each issue, and the installation of new equipment to cellophane-wrap the cards and protect them from damage.

Some collectors even believed that the popular name for stamp cards, 'PHQ cards', stood for 'Printed by the House of Questa'. In fact, the PHQ serial numbers printed on the back of them stood for 'Post Office Headquarters'.

Royal Mail stamps

The vast majority of British stamps were printed in gravure by Harrisons, and the use of litho had endured a false start in 1969 and 1970, when De La Rue's heavily-promoted Delacryl process gave somewhat crude results when tried for the Post Office Technology and Commonwealth Games issues. By the late 1970s, however, Royal Mail began to show an interest in what Questa could do.

After a reception held to launch a new issue, Don Beaumont, who was in charge of stamp production, gave Wally the original artwork that had been used for the 1967 stamp commemorating Sir Francis Chichester's single-handed circumnavigation in his yacht *Gipsy Moth IV* (printed in gravure ▷

DID YOU KNOW?

In September 1992 the House of Questa conducted trials for Royal Mail of phosphor and fluorescent ink matrices overprinted on various Machins and country definitives. This was intended as a security measure confirming the denomination of the stamp and identifying the printer, but the project came to nothing.



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by Harrisons), suggesting that the company might like to see what it could achieve with litho.

Three weeks later, Wally returned with the results. Don sat in silence for several minutes, comparing Questa's essays with the artwork. Although the essays

differed from the issued stamps (the design by Michael Goaman had been amended at the proofing stage to include more cloud), he concluded that they were identical to the artwork.

'You chaps can really print,' he said. For the first time, The House of Questa had put itself in the frame for winning stamp printing contracts.

The first of these might have come in 1978, when Questa was approached with regard to printing commemorative stamps should Scotland's football team win the World Cup. Designs were prepared in readiness, but optimism about Scotland's chances turned out to be misplaced...

There were some concerns within Royal Mail about its level of dependence on Harrisons as the sole supplier of low-value

definitives and commemoratives, and this was exacerbated in 1979 when industrial unrest at Harrisons meant that Enschedé in the Netherlands had to be asked to step in and print a quantity of the 8p definitive. It was also appreciated that litho might make more economic sense than gravure for special stamp issues.

As a toe in the water, it was decided that one special issue a year and certain definitives should be printed by litho starting in 1980, with both Questa and John Waddington of Kirkstall being given the opportunity to put the promise into practice.

Definitives

Questa's first stamp commission from Royal Mail was to print the 75p Machin definitive, which was issued on January 20, 1980, quickly

GB SPECIAL ISSUES

1980 Sport Centenaries	litho
1982 British Motor Cars	litho
1984 Greenwich Meridian	litho
1986 Industry Year	litho
1986 Parliamentary Association	litho
1987 St John Ambulance	litho
1988 Australian Bicentenary	litho
1989 Royal Microscopical Society	litho
1990 RSPCA	litho
1990 Queen's Awards	litho
1990 Astronomy	litho
1991 World Congress of Roses	litho
1991 Ordnance Survey (2 values)	litho
1992 40th Anniversary of the Accession	litho
1992 International Events (3 values)	litho
1993 John Harrison	litho
1993 Inland Waterways	litho
1993 Sherlock Holmes	litho
1994 Picture Postcards	litho
1994 D-Day	litho
1995 Cats	litho
1995 Novels of H G Wells	litho
1996 Robert Burns	litho
1996 European Football Championship	litho
1996 Olympic & Paralympic Games	litho
1998 Endangered Species	litho
1998 Lighthouses	litho
1998 Comedians	litho
1998 National Health Service	litho
1999 The Patients' Tale	gravure
1999 The Scientists' Tale (2 values)	litho
2000 Above & Beyond	litho/gravure
2000 Body & Bone	litho/gravure
2001 Royal Navy Submarine Service	gravure
2001 Double-Decker Buses	gravure
2002 Occasions	litho
2002 Circus	gravure
2002 Bridges of London	litho
2002 Astronomy	gravure
2003 Occasions	litho
2003 Extreme Endeavours	gravure



ABOVE: 1984 Greenwich Meridian 16p



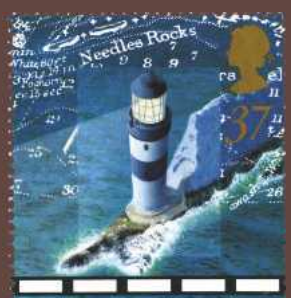
ABOVE: 1988 Bicentenary of Australian Settlement 34p



ABOVE: 1992 Anniversary of the Queen's Accession 24p



ABOVE: 1995 Novels by H G Wells 25p



ABOVE: 1998 Lighthouses 37p



ABOVE: 2001 Royal Navy Submarine Service 1st class



'In 1980 Royal Mail decided to have one special issue a year and certain definitives printed in litho. Questa's first commission was to print the 75p Machin'

ABOVE: Security printing meant following Crown Agents and Royal Mail protocols, and careful checking of all print-runs

followed by the 2p and 5p definitives, released on May 21.

Harrisons provided film of the Machin portrait of the Queen, but of course it had been intended for gravure printing. Adjustments were needed for litho work, and it proved no easy task to replicate the graduation seen on existing stamps.

Nevertheless many more definitives would follow, including 4p, 13p, 14p, 17p, 18p, 19p, 20p, 22p, 24p, 33p, 34p, 39p Machins in the days before elliptical perforations, some of the earliest 1st class and 2nd class stamps after non-value-indicators were introduced in 1989, and 1p, 6p, 10p, 19p, 20p, 25p, 26p, 30p, 35p and 41p values with elliptical perforations from 1994.

Questa also printed a whole raft of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales country definitives from 1981 to 1993, and (in booklets) the 15p and 20p values in the 1990 'double-head' series celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Penny Black.

Commemoratives

Meanwhile, the company got its first opportunity to show the true potential of offset litho for printing special issues, with the Sport Centenaries stamps which were released on October 10, 1980.

Printing the issue was a huge undertaking, and it did not prove straightforward. There was a late change to the design of the 13½p value (it was felt appropriate that one of the rugby players should be wearing the Wales kit, because it was the centenary of the Welsh Rugby Union), and the quantities to be printed were increased at short notice, to 220,000 sheets.

The designer, Robert Goldsmith, was not advised that his designs were to be reproduced in litho, and when he heard the news he was disappointed, believing they were more suited to gravure.

As it turned out, however, the results were excellent, and more special issues duly followed.

Royal Mail switched from deciding which issues would be litho-printed once the designs were in hand, to advising the designers in advance so they could make sure their work was suitable, and this helped Questa to demonstrate the quality it could achieve.

After initially alternating with ▷



ABOVE: Questa printed retail stamp books from 1988, including some of the early 'window' booklets

ABOVE: In 1990 it produced two values in the 150th Anniversary of the Penny Black issue in booklets



ABOVE: Questa essay for the £10 definitive, to a Machin design by Jeffery Matthews

ABOVE: Questa essay for the £10 definitive, to a Britannia design by Mike Denney of the Roundel Design Group



Waddingtons in producing an annual litho set, the company was asked to print at least one set every year in the second half of the 1980s, and more than one a year through most of the 1990s and the early 2000s. In 1998, three consecutive special issues were litho-printed by The House of Questa.

Indeed, Questa proved the value of the process so effectively that by the end of the millennium rivals such as Harrisons, Enschedé and Walsall were also printing special issues using litho.

Security printing

Working for Royal Mail brought its challenges. There was tight control on everything from auditing to ensuring that the phosphor used met its operational requirements. When the whip was cracked, Questa had to comply.

But the three directors also knew that the flow of commissions could be terminated at short notice, so it was important not to treat the Royal Mail work as paramount, and to respect the needs of other clients. Printing British stamps was clearly prestigious, but no less important was meeting shipping

ABOVE: 1993 £10 definitive as issued, printed by Questa using silver foil die-stamping, braille embossing, elliptical perforations and paper impregnated with fluorescent fibres

'Questa's greatest challenge was printing the 1993 £10 definitive, whose security features included silver foil, embossing and fluorescent ink'

deadlines for the Crown Agents, to ensure that stamps for other countries reached them on time.

The House of Questa already met the necessary security requirements, thanks to its work for the Crown Agents, but Royal Mail installed its own resident security officer, as was accepted practice in those days.

Every sheet of printed stamps had to be inspected several times, a task undertaken by a team of 20. Every sheet of paper had to be accounted for, and after each issue had been completed the films and

plates had to be destroyed under supervision. Perfection was always essential, and might mean that an entire print-run had to be scrapped and begun afresh.

At first, the work was placed by Royal Mail on a non-tendering basis. Subsequently, printers had to tender for contracts, often for five-year periods, and there was frequent pressure to reduce prices.

Part of the strength of The House of Questa lay in the loyalty of its staff, and its relationship with the print unions. The attitude taken was always one of compromise, never confrontation, so labour disputes were never a problem.

Booklets

When retail stamp books were introduced in 1987, much of the printing was done by Harrisons and later Walsall, but Questa was asked to be an additional supplier, starting with quantities of the 10 x 14p and 10 x 19p 'window' booklets in 1988.

Frustratingly, Royal Mail was insistent that the covers of these booklets should have an aperture or 'window' through which the contents could be seen, even when Questa suggested that simply illustrating the contents would be just as effective. Special equipment had to be developed to create the aperture and affix the acetate covering, only for Royal Mail to decide within a year that Questa had been right all along!

Booklet production also required new counting and wrapping equipment, as specified by Royal Mail.

Questa continued printing booklets through the 1990s and into the early 2000s, when it was responsible for many of the early

RIGHT: Prestige stamp books were part of Questa's output from 1988, with the Financial Times booklet, until 2002





self-adhesive booklets. It also printed business sheets and, starting with the Story of the Financial Times book in 1988, various prestige stamp books.

The £10 definitive

The House of Questa's greatest challenge of all was printing the £10 definitive of 1993, the highest-value postage stamp Britain has ever issued, with its many in-built security features.

Its development involved trials being undertaken by both Harrisons and Questa, of designs by Jeffery Matthews and by Mike Denney of the Roundel Design Group.

The Matthews design used the Machin portrait, and Questa's trials had an embossed portrait and a background of 'RM' in repeated fluorescent letters. The Denney design featured Britannia, and the initial Questa trials included the use of silver foil die-stamping and braille embossing.

The Britannia design was chosen by Royal Mail, but Roundel was asked to modify it to make her more recognisable (the final artwork was produced by Barry Craddock) and Questa was asked to incorporate not only silver foil and braille but also fluorescent ink and elliptical perforations.

The result was eventually selected for issue. To this day, not all of the security features incorporated in the stamp have been revealed, but they also included the use of special paper impregnated with fluorescent fibres.

The total face value of the stamps to be printed was a concern not

ABOVE: The Patients' Tale set in the 1999 Millennium series was the first *Questa* special issue printed in gravure

DID YOU KNOW?

The House of Questa printed Royal Mail's first 13 Smilers generic sheets, from 2000 until its take-over by De La Rue in 2003.



only for Royal Mail but also for Questa's insurers. Special packaging was devised which left the corners of the sheets exposed, so that the number of sheets inside could be checked without fully opening it.

Exit strategy

In 1984 a take-over bid had been received from Waddingtons, which understood that Royal Mail wanted only two suppliers of litho printing and feared it might be the company to lose out. Since the three men who had established Questa realised by this time that their children were not interested in carrying on the business, they decided to accept.

Waddingtons retained the expertise of Wally, Charles and Ken, and at first the two operations continued to trade as separate entities. Then in 1986 Waddingtons decided to concentrate its security printing under the Questa name.

Charles and Wally left the organisation shortly before the

Waddington Group was split up and the MDC Corporation of Toronto became the new owners of The House of Ovesta in 1996.

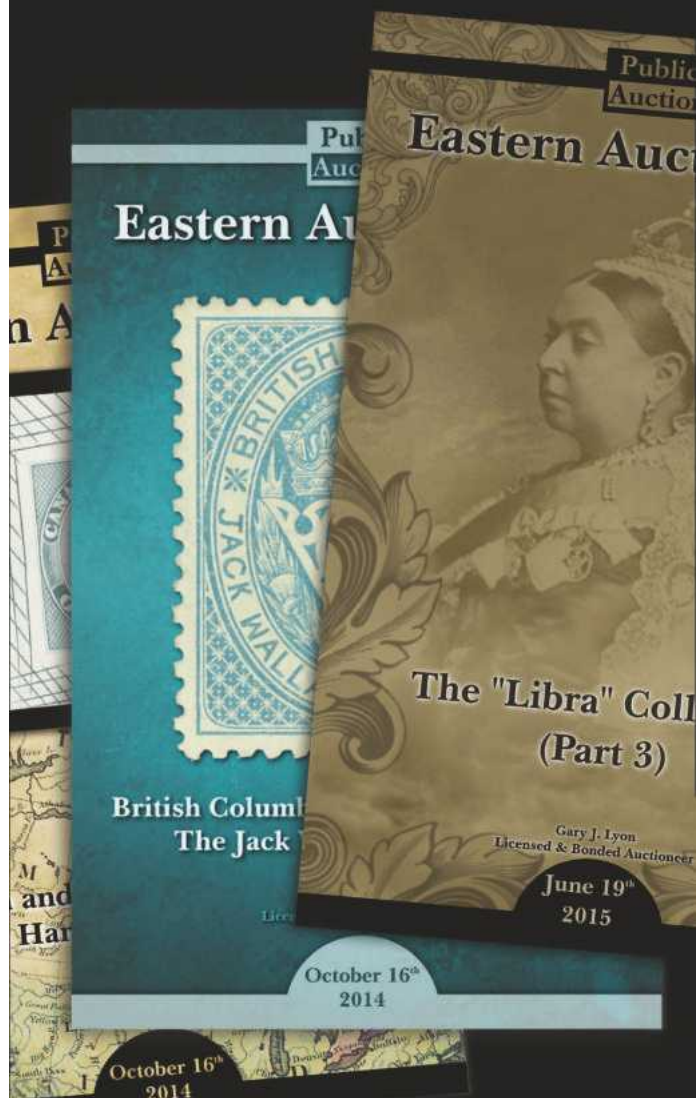
By this time, the tide had turned against litho to an extent, in that an increasing number of litho-printed forgeries led Royal Mail to decide to revert to gravure for definitives. Gravure presses could not be installed at Camberwell, partly due to lack of space and partly due to problems removing the effluent created by the process, so the company was moved to Byfleet in Surrey, where MDC already had a printing plant and where gravure presses were installed. As a result, some of Questa's later definitives and commemoratives, from 1998, were uncharacteristically printed in gravure.

In 2002 the company was acquired by De La Rue, and at the start of 2003 the Questa name was dropped. Its last entry into the Great Britain catalogue was the Extreme Endeavours set issued on April 29, 2003. ■



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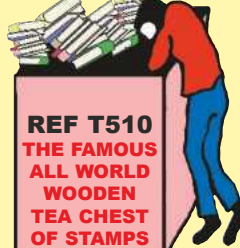
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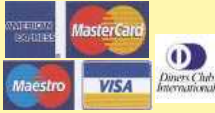
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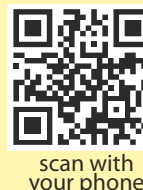
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High cross

Malta's first high value stamp of 1886 might have been an afterthought, but the grandeur of the 5s rose made it a very attractive addition to the inaugural issue

■ Report by John Winchester

Britain's Mediterranean naval base of Malta began issuing its own stamps in 1860, with the celebrated ½d yellow. This would remain in service for 25 years for internal postage, while overseas mail was franked with the stamps of Great Britain.

In 1885, however, responsibility for postal administration was transferred from London to Valletta, and Malta finally needed a full range of denominations.

Following a report prepared by the Island Postmaster detailing what would be required, based upon sales of British stamps during the previous year, six values ranging from ½d to 1s were released on January 1.

In the past, high values had been little used, with only 560 sold in the year up to March 1883, so the

RIGHT: Malta 1886 5s rose, the colony's first high value stamp



'The Island Postmaster initially excluded high values from his thinking. Within three months he was regretting that'

Island Postmaster had excluded them from his thinking. But within three months, as parcel post from the colony began to boom, he was already regretting his decision.

A hurried request was made to the Crown Agents for 'a distinctive 5s design, which should be a good deal larger than those already supplied, clearly exhibiting the eight-pointed cross of Malta.'

The printer, De La Rue, responded efficiently and within just three days sent the Crown Agents a

design, together with a quotation of £50 for producing the die and an additional £50 for a plate of 120.

It was a pleasing piece of work, featuring Jean Joubert's Diadem IV head of Queen Victoria, enclosed within the large medallion of the eight-pointed cross, a symbol of the Knights Hospitallers' gallant defence of the island against the Turks in the great siege of 1565.

Four smaller angled crosses filled the spaces between the four arms, while panels at the top and bottom simply carried the country name and denomination, with two further crosses for good measure.

De La Rue acknowledged that the projected colour, rose, was the same as that of the 1d stamp, but felt that the much larger size and distinctive appearance of the 5s should obviate any confusion.

An order was placed for 125 sheets, totalling 15,000 stamps, printed by typography on paper with a Crown CC watermark, perforated 14.

The consignment was shipped to the island ready to be placed on sale on January 1, 1886, exactly one year after the low values.

Essentially intended for use on parcels, with the likelihood of being heavily cancelled and then damaged or discarded on receipt, the 5s rose became a sought-after stamp on the philatelic market, as well as being much admired for its style and grandeur.

Its scarcity, though, was tempered by its longevity. Just like the original 1860 ½d, the 5s would have a lifespan of 25 years, remaining in use until 1911. ■

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The great divide

Racial segregation in South Africa in the 20th century extended to separate post office queues and even different postal markings. Cancellations, cachets and labels provide evidence of the invidious discrimination that existed even before Apartheid

■ Report by Steve Hannath

Until the demise of the Apartheid regime in South Africa in 1994, it is well documented that black native Africans had been treated as inferiors by the white European colonisers for generations, restricted in where they could live and work and excluded from government.

Most philatelists know that racial segregation extended to making people of different races queue at separate post office counters, or use different post offices altogether.

What is less well known is that the mail sent by blacks and Asians was often treated differently too, given distinguishing 'Non-European' or 'Non-White' postmarks and labels.

As whites were for many years the main users of postal services, examples of these are quite difficult to find. But it is possible to come across some of this remarkable postal history in the UK, and new discoveries are still being made.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HUNT LIBRARY



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HILL

ABOVE: The uninitiated might assume that this cancellation of 1943 was from a post office in the north-east of Pretoria. In reality, the abbreviation '(N-E)' stands for 'Non-European', noting that the item of mail was posted at a counter for black and Asian customers in a segregated post office

ABOVE: White and black customers queue separately in a typical scene of segregation in South African post offices

Origins of segregation

As the colonies in southern Africa were never a popular destination for European immigrants in the 19th century, the number of whites remained relatively small. Population growth came from unskilled black people moving from rural areas to the new white-dominated towns in search of work. Uneasy whites called this migration the 'Native Problem'.

For most but not all whites, the answer was segregation. As the colonial master in southern Africa, Britain attempted to restrict the free movement of people. Although generally liberal and well-meaning, British colonial administrators initiated practices that became the

foundation of segregationist legislation.

Attempts to control native migration into the Eastern Cape began as early as 1809, with the first 'pass laws' restricting movement through the need for internal passports. In 1849, administrators in Natal introduced 'native reserves', separate areas for black Africans which were the forerunners of the later 'Bantustans' or 'homelands'. In the Northern Cape in 1885, the mining magnate Cecil Rhodes began restricting his migrant workers to crowded, all-male compounds.

Alongside the 'Native Problem' was the 'Indian Problem'. Indian labourers had been migrating to

1910 Early Non-European handstamp

'Non-European' postmarks began to appear in around 1906, before the Union of South Africa. This is an early example of what was possibly the Transvaal's first such handstamp, a Krugersdorp cancellation with '(N)' (for Native), dated December 17, 1910.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HILL

'A post office for the exclusive use of Indian and native workers, opened in Pretoria in 1914, is believed to have been the first in the Union of South Africa to use a race-identifying handstamp'

1914 Pretoria Indo-Native handstamp

The Pretoria Indo-Native Office, for the exclusive use of urban Indians and natives, was opened on July 1, 1914, and is believed to be the first Union of South Africa post office to use a race-identifying handstamp.

This remarkable recent find is the earliest known example, on a registered cover to India, dated July 9, 1914, eight days after the office opened.

Apparently it was only the second registered letter sent from there.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HILL

Natal since 1860, rapidly growing into a large Asian community, and most whites viewed them no differently from natives.

Part of this community for a while was Mohandas Gandhi, the lawyer who would later become world famous as the leader of Indian nationalism. On visiting the Durban post office in 1895, he was angered to find two entrances: one reserved for whites, and the other for both Indians and natives.

Gandhi opposed Indians being placed on the same level as the natives, and successfully petitioned the Natal government for a third entrance for the use of Asians.

Township post offices

By 1900 most white-dominated towns had a black 'location' or 'township' on its outskirts, a separate urban residential area where black workers and their families were required to live by law. In 1905, some of these were given a post office agency.

No early example of the postmarks used by these agencies is known to survive, but later handstamps have 'Location', 'Location/Lokasie', 'Loc-Lok', 'Loc', 'Lok', 'Lo' or 'L/O' after the town name, or occasionally before it.

Designated 'Non-European' handstamps began to appear as early as 1906, but again there seem to be no surviving covers from this period.

Entrenched racism

A more assertive period of segregation began when the 1910 Act of Union brought the Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange River Colony and Transvaal together as the Union of South Africa. This entrenched political power in British and Boer hands, uniting them as white South Africans.

Racist legislation soon followed. African land ownership was restricted by the 1913 Native Land Act, and all urban areas were officially declared 'white' by the 1923 Native Urban Areas Act.

Heralding the segregationist future, a new post office for the exclusive use of Indian and native workers was opened in the centre of Pretoria, the executive capital of the Union, in 1914. Called the Pretoria Indo-Native Office, it is believed to have been the first Union post office to use a

1923 Early Indian Office handstamp

The earliest recorded example of an Indian-specific postmark is this 'Indian Office Durban' cancellation dated May 5, 1923.

Indian post offices had existed in Natal for many years, and since 1884 in Durban. Segregation was normal, but mail sent by all races initially received the same cancellation.



IMAGE COURTESY OF RALPH PUTZEL

race-identifying handstamp.

After the segregationist National Party in alliance with the 'whites only' Labour Party gained power in 1924, serving blacks and Asians at separate counters or post offices became standard practice.

Distinctive handstamps

It was around this time that larger post offices began to employ different cancellations to distinguish mail posted by different races.

Native Africans and Asians were grouped together under the despised blanket descriptions 'Non-European' and 'Non-White' — translated as 'Nie Europeane' and 'Nie Blankes', after South Africa was officially declared a bilingual country in 1925 and state communication was required to be in both English and Afrikaans.

Fitting bilingual race descriptions into limited space on post office handstamps, cachets and labels was not easy, and different approaches to it included 'Non Eur/Nie Eur', 'NB NE', 'NB/NE', 'NB', 'NE', 'N-E', 'Non-E', 'NW', 'N-W' and simply 'N'.

Where some of these appear after a town name, collectors could

1924 Pretoria Indo-Native handstamp

This registered letter from the Pretoria Indo-Native Office, dated November 19, 1924, has what appears to be the same unilingual datestamp as used in 1914 but with 'South Africa' removed.

Addressed to Basutoland it suggests that black migrant workers were beginning to use the post office to send money securely back from urban areas to tribal areas, in this case via the offices of a clergyman.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HILL

1926-42 Township handstamps

'Location' handstamps are from the post office agencies set up in black townships on the outskirts of white-dominated towns and cities.

These examples are from Kimberley in the Northern Cape, dated January 19, 1926, and Bloemfontein in what was once the Orange Free State, dated December 10, 1942.

The Kimberley agency existed from 1921-53, and this was its first of its seven different cancellers. The Bloemfontein agency was set up in 1925 and used five different types.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HILL



1933 Pretoria Non-European handstamp

The Pretoria Indo-Native Office was succeeded in 1932 by the Pretoria Non-European Office (Kantoor vir Nie-Europeane). This early example of its first datestamp, from June 28, 1933, shows the difficulty of setting bilingual office names in a limited space, a requirement which would increasingly oblige the postal authorities to use shorter abbreviations.



easily mistake them for compass points, but they are not!

Durban's post office uniquely used the more polite native word 'Bantu' to describe its black customers from 1939. But as 'Bantu' became part of the lexicon of Apartheid, its use caused the offence it was meant to avoid, and inscriptions reverted to 'N-E' and 'N-W'.

Many other post offices, such as those at Cape Town, Port

1938 East London Indo-Native handstamp

This registered first day cover of December 14, 1938, has fine examples of the handstamp and cachet of the East London Indo-Native Office. Interestingly, both breach the regulation that insisted on bilingual markings, perhaps because they pre-date the 1925 legislation, although the earliest recorded example of this cancellation is from 1933.

Addressed to Yorkshire in England, this cover was probably posted by a black man on behalf of a white man.



1938 Springs parcel handstamp

This unusual unilingual Non-European handstamp is a parcel cancellation from Springs, part of the mining region east of Johannesburg, in what used to be Transvaal. It is thought to have been used around Christmas in 1938.



Elizabeth and Johannesburg, did not use race-specifying cancellers yet they still practised segregation. Numbered handstamps were used the counters, and you can sometimes work out which were assigned to counters serving 'non-Europeans' by other postal markings on covers, such as registration labels.

Even where discriminatory postal markings were used, they were not applied in every instance. Examples exist of hybrid covers with normal handstamps but 'Non-European' registration labels and cachets, or vice versa.

Postal history

Since they were not used in three of the four biggest cities, and barely used in the hundreds of rural post offices, 'Non-European' cancellations are relatively hard for postal historians to find, but by no means impossible.

They most often originate from cities with a large surrounding black population, such as Durban and East London, from the industrialised mining towns of the Witwatersrand region, with their large native workforce, and from Pretoria, the administrative capital.

1943 Durban Bantu handstamp

Durban's post office uniquely used the native word 'Bantu' rather than 'Non-European' to distinguish its black customers, from around 1939.

The wide 'U' identifies this example, dated March 16, 1943, as the second of seven recorded 'Durban Bantu' handstamps, and the matching registration cachet is rare.

This cover appears to have been posted by a black man on behalf of a white philatelist.



DID YOU KNOW?

Apartheid was exported from South Africa to South West Africa (now Namibia), which it governed under a United Nations mandate until 1966 and without such international recognition until as late as 1990.

Non-European handstamps from South West Africa are uncommon, but here is an example from Otjiwarongo in February 1964.



1953 Durban Non-European label

This registered letter of October 1, 1953, posted at Durban post office, has a normal handstamp with no racial identifier but a 'Non-European' registration label, showing that segregation postal markings were not always applied consistently.

It must have been mailed by a black man, probably on behalf of a white employer, so we can assume that handstamp No103 must have been in use at a 'Non-European' counter, even though it was not designated as such.



1955 Township cover

This registered letter of June 22, 1955, was posted at The Duncan Village, a black township outside East London, and the cachet shows the post office's second-class status.

The post office would later be burnt down in an anti-Apartheid riot in 1985, precipitating the Duncan Village Massacre in which 31 protestors were killed.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HILL

'Covers with Non-European cancellations most often originate from cities with a large surrounding black population, from the industrialised mining towns with their large native workforce, and from Pretoria, the capital'

1957 Rural Non-European handstamp

'Non-European' handstamps were rarely used in small country post offices, but this is an interesting exception.

Dated December 6, 1957, it is from Lindley, a small farming town in the former Orange Free State.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ROBERT HILL

1969 Non-White handstamp

During the Apartheid era, the abbreviation 'NW' (Non-White) became more widely used on Non-European handstamps. This example is from Kempton Park, north-east of Johannesburg.



Examples of mail between two black correspondents appear to be more scarce than letters posted by black servants or messengers on behalf of white individuals or businesses.

Apartheid era

In 1948, D F Malan's National Party, in alliance with the Afrikaner Party, won power in South Africa with just 37% of the whites-only vote, but claimed to have a mandate to re-engineer society with an uncompromising segregationist policy called Apartheid (separateness).

From 1953 the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act forced segregation on all who resisted it.

As opposition to Apartheid grew, both domestically and internationally, the state's response in 1961 was to withdraw from the Commonwealth and declare itself a republic, following a referendum in which, of course, only whites were permitted to vote. ■

THANKS

The author acknowledges the research of Dr Tom Berry, Ralph Putzel and Gerhard Kamffer, and the generous assistance of Robert Hill

FIND OUT MORE

- *The Postmarks of South Africa & Former States & Colonies* by Ralph Putzel
- *South African Postmarks, 1910-1966* by Dr Tom Berry

EXP 14. THE BRITISH - ICELANDIC EXPEDITION A scarce expedition cover for the British - Icelandic expedition of 1981. This is the official illustrated cover flown from the UK to KEFLAVIC (Iceland) and bears the P.O. expedition postmark. The cover has been additionally signed by Mike Todd, (Chairman of the B.S.A.C.) An important postal history cover for sale Price £12.

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Going to the polls

Marienwerder entered and left the stamp catalogue in the space of six months in 1920, in the anticipation of a plebiscite over whether it should be German or Polish

■ Report by Adrian Keppel

One of the pillars of the peace conference held in Paris after World War I was the idea of self-determination for the peoples of central Europe following the collapse of the German and Austrian empires. As a result, the Treaty of Versailles facilitated a number of plebiscites, giving the inhabitants of disputed regions the opportunity to decide which country they wanted to be part of.

One of these was to be held in Marienwerder, a district of Prussia about 40 miles south-east of Danzig, to decide whether it would remain in Germany or be handed over to the newly re-established state of Poland.

An Interallied Commission was set up in February 1920 to supervise the plebiscite, and in the lead-up to the vote in July it was also in control of the postal arrangements in the district.

One of the Commission's first acts was to prohibit the sale of German stamps from March 12, and issue a new set of Marienwerder stamps on the same day.

Printed by Coen & Co in Milan,

'The stamps were printed in sheets of 150, with four stamp-sized spaces left unused'

Italy, the lithographed set of 14 values shared a single design, an allegory of *Populi Voluntas* (the Will of the People) comprising a crowned woman holding the fasces as a symbol of justice and flanked by flags. It was inscribed 'Commission Interalliée' at the top and 'Marienwerder' at the bottom.

Denominated from 5pf to 5m in the German currency that remained in use locally, the stamps were printed in sheets of 150, which worked out in such a way that four stamp-sized spaces were left unused in each sheet, instead



ABOVE: Marienwerder 1920 75pf chocolate, with its allegory of the Will of the People



LEFT: Germany 1m red with the 1920 'Commission Interalliée Marienwerder' overprint

A second set, issued during July and August, had the same design, values and colours but the inscription at the top changed to 'Plebiscite'.

Concurrent with both these sets were provisional issues of German stamps with the overprint 'Commission Interalliée Marienwerder' and in some cases with a surcharge.

With the overprinting carried out on part-sheets of 20 or 50 stamps, and many trial printings and proofs coming onto the philatelic market, a large specialised collection could be formed of all the different types and varieties, mint or on cover.

When the plebiscite was held on July 11, 1920, the population voted overwhelmingly for remaining part of Germany, with the outcome influenced to an extent by the fact that Poland was already at war with communist Russia.

Marienwerder was officially restored to Germany on August 16, and the German postal authorities took control once again. The Commission stamps were invalidated on September 14, although they could be exchanged for German stamps for another fortnight after that.

Marienwerder remained German only until 1945, when it finally became part of Poland. It still is, under the name Kwidzyn. ■

WHERE IN THE WORLD?



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Q. How to Build a Good Stamp Collection

A. (Hint) If it's easy – maybe it is TOO easy...

10+ 'TOP TIPS' for Successful Collecting

As many of you know I made the decision to give up collecting when I started full-time in the trade 43 years ago. But here's what I perceive as a mistake I made in terms of re-sale value and in enjoyment. If you are not bothered about V A L U E then you don't need to read further...

What I collected then was easy to source. It was good quality. They were (and still are) lovely stamps but they would be worth less now than when I collected and that's more than 40 years ago. The basic mistake I made then was thinking that 'easy' made for a good stamp collection. Yes, 'easy' made for a lovely collection but I could buy those same stamps – in the SAME quality – from any number of different sources. I still can today ... so if I can buy them easily today – will their value have appreciated? Has demand for what is/was easily available increased? The answer is a firm **NO**.

TIP As an 'aside'. In particular be wary of 'inertia' selling delivery systems – where you pay on direct debit / standing order system / monthly invoice. These systems usually hide the highest mark-ups in our industry and the lowest recovery value when it comes to sale. You are going to find this story particularly incredible – but about 13 years ago I was once called to clear a house-full of stamps. The owner had died leaving many 100's of unopened New Issue delivery envelopes. I opened one of the oldest envelopes. Inside was a note from the supplier saying sorry they

had not delivered the MINT 1929 PUC £1 ! Ah well, I thought "such is life" – the collection included both mint Wembleys + literally masses more. Imagine my surprise when the next envelope opened included a MINT PUC £1 with a note saying "we found one for you" (and then the realisation that this High Value stamp had lain inside the same envelope for so long that it had a large brown 'rust-spot' on the reverse!

Returning to subject: So, what forms the basis of a **GOOD** stamp collection if I want '**resale VALUE**'?

TIP 1). The answer is, as usual, a combination of factors ... BUT, if you think in terms of desirability and then dial in quality ... this makes for a collection that others will wish to purchase. Of course collecting means that some of the stamps you source will be easily available ... but if ALL the stamps you collect are easily available and on average they cost very little each ... then you may have 1,000's of different stamps whose value lies in the actual handling cost of the supplier – not in their intrinsic value. So when it comes to selling this may result in little / no interest. Of course it goes without saying **TIP** – Always collect the Best quality that you can afford.

Where Do I Source Good Stamps ?

2). Sadly, in some senses, the Philatelic World has changed. Gone are the days when in 1980 100,000 different Collectors descended upon the 1980 International Stamp Exhibition at Earls Court. I know because I was there. An International Stamp Show in the 'west' today may be lucky to see 10,000 visitors. A stamp fair today in a local village / town may be lucky to see 30 visitors let alone 20 actual buyers ... when you consider that 15 dealers may have travelled to such a venue – is it any surprise that many Collectors may see the same stamps they saw at that same venue a month before?

3). No, the answer is that Stamp Collecting is alive and well – stamps shops are all but defunct – but 'underground' – on-line, by mail-order and at auction things are still 'humming' depending upon whom you are dealing with. So, let's look at potentially / proba-

bly the biggest sourcing area of the hobby apart from retail which is fairly self-explanatory ... and that is bidding / buying at Stamp Auction.

4). **Nowadays there are three types of stamp auction:** – Pure Internet / Public - (including on-line bidding) / Postal (Mail-Bid Sales – including on-line). Each has its strengths and weaknesses. Let's start with Pure Internet live auctions, I won't mention names but in some senses these are today's equivalent of the 'Wild West'. As fast as these internet Giants catch up with the some of the crooks using them, the crooks move a step ahead ... many internet bidders using them are 'hooked'.

TIP 4a). They have become 'live auction obsessed' unwilling / not capable of looking elsewhere – thinking that bidding / buying this way guarantees value which it does not. What happens when they come to sell?

Please turn to page 69 

Imagined nations

Stamps from (almost) nowhere are (almost) everywhere. Here are the stories behind 10 of our favourite stamp-issuing entities which aren't really countries at all

■ Report by Louisa Eastern



There are plenty of stamp-issuing entities in the mainstream catalogues which are unfamiliar to most of us, but are listed for logical reasons. They may be tiny places, or colonies which have ceased to exist, but they are there because for a period of time they were autonomous states which ran their own postal affairs.

On the other hand, many stamps have been issued, and continue to be issued, on behalf of islands or towns that are uninhabited or barely inhabited, and whose autonomy barely stretches beyond the promotion of tourism.

Some may claim to be 'nations', or 'micronations', but they are a long way from having a seat set aside for them at UN Headquarters or the Universal Postal Union.

ABOVE: Border post of Hutt River Province, an Australasian principality which issues its own passports, coins and stamps. A seat at the United Nations will have to wait...

Who issues these stamps from (nearly) nowhere, and what are the stories that lie behind them? Sometimes the truth behind the fiction is stranger than fiction itself.

Clipperton Island

Named after the English pirate John Clipperton, who hid out there in 1705, Clipperton Island is a coral atoll in the eastern Pacific Ocean which was described by the *San Francisco Call* in 1895 as 'a guano field nine miles in circumference'.

Despite the rival claims of France (its overlord today) and Mexico (its closest mainland neighbour), the island was at the time under the control of the American Oceanic Phosphate Company, which set up business there from 1892-97 to exploit its abundant natural resource: bird dung.

Although the number of miners working on the island never rose above a dozen, it was also in 1895 that Clipperton Island began to issue its own stamps, ostensibly to pay for the carriage of mail from the small resident team of miners to their friends and families in the USA.

Printed in San Francisco by W Frese & Co, the set comprised 10 values in six different designs, illustrating the atoll, its birds and its crayfish. Their values ranged from 1c up to \$1, with the top value inscribed 'Express'.

At the time, *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* denounced the stamps as a 'barefaced speculative issue', and doubted whether anyone had actually used them on mail.

In fact there is evidence that they were postally used, although their

CLIPPERTON ISLAND



ABOVE: Clipperton Island is an uninhabited Pacific Ocean atoll, whose closest neighbour is Mexico and whose main attraction is the fact that it is covered in bird excrement

LEFT: Its stamps, for an American mining operation in 1895, were produced and pre-cancelled in San Francisco, California

BELOW: 1895 cover from Clipperton to Ipswich in England, with US postage added in San Francisco to pay for the transatlantic delivery



distinctive W Frese & Co San Francisco cancellations were applied in advance and did not tie them to the covers on which they appear.

Clipperton Island is now an overseas territory of France.

Bouvet Island

The icy, volcanic, uninhabited island of Bouvet in the South Atlantic Ocean, more than 1,000 miles south-west of the southern tip of Africa, is so isolated that after its initial discovery in 1739 it wasn't rediscovered until 1927.

It was then successfully claimed

by Norway, but its only set of stamps would be issued at the instigation of the British.

When a British Expedition set off for a visit aboard HMS *Milford* in February 1934, her Captain, H C Phillips, presumably a philatelist, asked the permission of the Norwegian Consulate in Cape Town to overprint some stamps to commemorate the occasion.

Norwegian definitives with values of 5ø, 7ø, 10ø, 20ø and 30ø were duly overprinted 'Bouvet Oya' (Bouvet Island), in quantities ranging from just 69 to 305, and those used on cover were later

BOUVET ISLAND



ABOVE: Bouvet Island, a Norwegian possession in the Antarctic, is both icy and volcanic, and essentially uninhabitable



ABOVE: Its 1930 stamp issue, comprising overprints on Norway definitives, was arranged by the British

handstamped in Cape Town with the date of *Milford's* visit.

On returning home in 1938, Phillips fastidiously wrote to Stanley Gibbons giving details of the issue, but the Norwegian government refused to recognise its validity.

Bouvet Island's stamps have remained in a state of limbo ever since, although that hasn't limited their appeal to collectors. ▷

THULE



ABOVE: Thule in north-west Greenland is one of the world's northernmost and most isolated towns



ABOVE: Its charming 1935 local stamp issue predated Greenland's national stamps by three years

Thule

Thule (now called Qaanaq) in north-west Greenland is one of the most northerly towns in the world, at above 77° latitude.

It was established in 1910 as a trading station by Knud Rasmussen, an anthropologist studying the Inuit people, and became a mining town producing cryolite, which was used in the production of bauxite.

It didn't really need stamps, because all mail from Greenland to

the mother country, Denmark, was carried free of charge. Nevertheless, the town commissioned a set of five in 1935 to mark the 25th anniversary of its founding. The 10ø value depicted Rasmussen, the 15ø the Danish flag and Thule mountain, the 25ø the local church, the 30ø some walrus, and the 45ø a polar bear at Cape York.

Used for local post until 1938, when the first stamps of Greenland were introduced, they were issued

with the full permission of the postal authority, but it considers them to have the same status as Christmas seals.

Qaanaq now has a population of around 600, and a United States air base.

Sanda Island

Sanda is a small island off the southern tip of Scotland's Kintyre peninsula, sometime called 'Spoon Island' because of its shape when viewed from nearby Arran.

It was the final resting place of the missionary St Ninian, a hideaway for Robert the Bruce when he was being pursued by the English, and a quiet retreat for Jack Bruce from the rock band Cream. For 24 years it also issued stamps.

The local post was established in 1962, for the benefit of the lighthouse keepers and occasional visitors, and its stamps attempted to attract collectors by covering major world themes. Some of the most eye-catching were imperforate circular stamps printed on aluminum foil, to commemorate President Kennedy in 1963 and celebrate the Mexico City Olympics in 1968.

No stamps have been issued since 1986, and the postal service seems unlikely to resume any time soon. In 2011 the island's population officially fell to zero when its new owner, intending to use it as a personal holiday home, closed it to visitors.

Pabay

In the 16th century Pabay, a tiny island off the east coast of the Isle of Skye in Scotland, was the haunt of cut-throats and murderers trying to escape the clutches of the law. More recently it has had a population varying from 0 to 20, peaking in the holiday season.

In the 1960s the Whatley family was trying to run a pottery and knitwear business on Pabay, and when the General Post Office refused to increase postal deliveries from once to twice a week they took matters into their own hands, using a converted lifeboat as a delivery vehicle and issuing their own local post stamps.

The first issue, an imperforate 2d value produced in 1962, depicted the mail boat framed by the inscription 'Isle of Pabay Skye/Mail

SANDA ISLAND



ABOVE: The Scottish island of Sanda's local post was set up mainly for its lighthouse keepers



ABOVE: Imperforate circular stamps printed on aluminum foil commemorated US President John F Kennedy in 1963 and the Mexico Olympics in 1968

Service/Postcard 2'. Many more have followed since, including a succession of rouletted sets boldly inscribed 'Europa' in the 1960s, and more than one issue a year since 1999, with local people involved in choosing the themes.

Although many small islands produce cinderellas to raise revenue, Pabay's are still used in

'Stamps have been issued on behalf of a monastery, a pottery, a holiday resort, an Antarctic volcano and a guano mine in the Pacific Ocean'

small quantities to pay for the carriage of mail to the mainland.

Rattlesnake Island

Located in Lake Erie, on the Ohio side of the USA's border with Canada, Rattlesnake Island may be the world's only freshwater island that issues stamps.

A small holiday resort owned by a private consortium, its permanent residents number just two (a chef and a caretaker), but it can boast the only local post sanctioned by the United States Postal Service.

It was set up in 1966, at the instigation of the island's then owner, James Frackelton, a Cleveland stamp dealer, after he

PABAY



ABOVE: Pabay's stamps are genuinely used to pay for mail from the island to the Isle of Skye or the Scottish mainland



ABOVE: The first stamp was an imperforate 2d issued in 1962



ABOVE: A run of 1960s rouletted sets were inscribed 'Europa'

RATTLESNAKE ISLAND



ABOVE: Rattlesnake Island is a private holiday resort on Lake Erie in the USA, which was once owned by a Cleveland stamp dealer



LEFT & ABOVE: The 1966 first issue was of three stamps for various airmail rates



ABOVE: Triangular stamps and diamond cachets were an attempt to differentiate local from national post

failed to convince the USPS of the need for regular deliveries and collections.

A set of airmail stamps was issued in August 1966, including a 5c for the postcard rate, showing a chart of the local islands, a 10c for the letter rate, showing an aerial view and a Ford Tri-Motor plane, and a 25c for the parcel rate, showing a US Coast Guard boat in the harbour.

Triangular designs followed, and an equally distinctive diamond-shaped cancellation, in a deliberate attempt to differentiate the stamps from USPS issues.

The Rattlesnake Island Post was suspended in 1989 when Frackelton sold the island. It restarted again in 2005 but was closed in 2013 after Frackelton's death.

Brecqhou

The island of Brecqhou, a tenement of Sark (part of the Bailiwick of Guernsey) in the Channel islands, is home to only a few dozen people.

Due to Brecqhou's unusual and disputed historical status, its owners, known as tenants, have some unique privileges, which include the right to issue stamps, or more correctly carriage labels.

The first tenant to do so was

'Many stamps have been issued on behalf of islands that are uninhabited or barely inhabited. Some claim to be nations, but they are a long way from having a seat set aside for them at UN Headquarters'

Leonard Matchan, on September 30, 1969, with a six-stamp set illustrating a gull on the three lower values, the unofficial Brecqhou flag on two higher values, and a helicopter (the easiest means of access) hovering over the island on the top value.

Bizarrely these stamps, inscribed 'Brecqhou', were valid only on the day of issue, because local postal services were banned by the newly established postal administration of Guernsey from the following day.

Regardless of this, stamp production resumed in 1999, six years after the island was purchased by the billionaire Barclay brothers, Sir David and Sir Frederick, whose substantial business interests include the

Telegraph Media Group.

Since then, new stamps have been issued intermittently, inscribed 'Brecqhou', initially imperforate but perforated since 2003. Although not postally valid, they sell well and raise money for charity. They very much reflect the interests of the Barclay brothers, to the extent that a 2004 issue honoured the *Daily Telegraph*!

Hutt River Province

The self-styled Principality of Hutt River, which occupies 29 square miles north of Perth and has a population of about 20, is a micronation which claims independence from Australia.

Leonard Casley and his neighbours declared sovereignty in 1970, in response to a dispute with the government of Western Australia over what they saw as unfair wheat quotas. They started issuing their own currency and stamps in 1973, although Australia Post refused to carry Hutt River mail from 1976, forcing it to be redirected via Canada.

In response to repeated demands for the payment of overdue taxes, Hutt River actually declared war on Australia in 1977. The cunning Casley notified the authorities of

BRECQHO



ABOVE: The Channel island of Brecqhou is owned by billionaire brothers, and home to a few dozen people



ABOVE: Attractive first day cover for the 1969 six-stamp debut issue, which was inscribed 'Brechou'

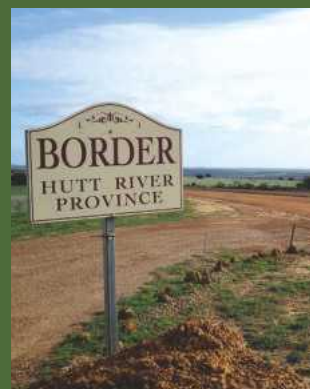


ABOVE: Later stamps, such as this 2006 trio depicting butterflies and moths, have been inscribed 'Brechou'

the cessation of hostilities several days later, trying to take advantage of a legal loophole which effectively granted sovereignty to any country 'undefeated in a state of war'.

Australia still declines to recognise the Principality, but in 1980 a court in Perth ruled that its currency and postage stamps were valid, and Casley is now classed as a non-resident for tax purposes.

HUTT RIVER PROVINCE



ABOVE: The Principality of Hutt River claims independence from Australia, and once declared war on it



ABOVE: 1974 stamp portraying Leonard Casley, who styles himself Prince Leonard



ABOVE: 2013 stamp commemorating Princess Shirley shortly after her death

Hutt River's annual stamp issues have often raised a smile, especially those celebrating 'Prince Leonard' and the matriarch of the Hutt River royal family, 'Princess Shirley', who died in 2013.

Staffa Island

The tiny Scottish island of Staffa, one of the Inner Hebrides just west of Mull, is visited daily by trip boats viewing the basalt columns of Fingal's Cave, but has been uninhabited since being

STAFFA ISLAND



ABOVE: The basalt columns and caves of Staffa Island in Scotland's Inner Hebrides attract many tourists but have a population of zero



ABOVE: 1976 Staffa £6 stamp printed with 23-carat gold foil, commemorating the bicentennial of the United States



ABOVE: 1982 sheetlet of four stamps depicting mushrooms

abandoned in 1798.

But that didn't prevent the controversial stamp dealer Clive Feigenbaum from persuading the Laird of Staffa, Alistair de Watterville, to grant him the right to produce Staffa stamps in the 1970s.

Feigenbaum is believed to have produced more than 200 different designs, inscribed 'Staffa' and

CALDEY ISLAND



ABOVE: The rugged scenery of Caldey Island, off the coast of Pembrokeshire in south-west Wales, is chiefly inhabited by seabirds, seals and a Cistercian monastery



ABOVE: Its first stamps illustrated Caldey Abbey Church and St David's Church in 1973-74, and were priced at 20-dabs, the island's equivalent of 2p

'Scotland', and they still regularly crop up for sale on the philatelic market, often with bogus postmarks.

They were promoted as 'local post' issues, but in reality the island had no post office. It did have one postbox, for the use of tourists on the trip boats, but any mail posted there had to be taken back to Mull or the mainland to be entered into the postal system. In any case the Laird admitted in 1977, in an interview with the *Sunday Times*, that the box hadn't been emptied since 1975!

Most controversial were several series of stamps printed with 23-carat gold foil, including one produced to commemorate the United States Bicentennial in 1976 and another to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

The British Philatelic Federation warned that these had 'absolutely no validity as postage stamps', but that didn't stop American collectors flocking to buy sets priced at \$20 each, with a total retail price estimated at \$5.2m.

Caldey Island

Lying just off the coast of Pembrokeshire in south-west Wales, Caldey is one of Britain's 'holy islands', inhabited mainly by around 40 Cistercian monks.

But it has its own post office and postage stamps, and even its own currency: the dab, named after the small fish that is found in great numbers in local waters.

In order to facilitate the postal service, one of the monks is appointed sub-postmaster and the monastery receives payments from Royal Mail for transporting the mail to the mainland.

It was in 1973, that the island first joined the ranks of local post providers, when it issued its own stamp in an attempt to raise funds for renovation work on the monastery. The earliest stamps featured Caldey Abbey Church and St David's Church, and were priced at 20-dabs (equivalent to 2p).

In 1979 a four-stamp set showed the monastery buildings, to mark the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the Cistercian Order. ■

Perhaps then they realise that **only** some of what they may have glistening is 'gold'. Indiscriminate internet auction bidders buying 1,000's of low price items ... may have spent large sums IN TOTAL ... but may not have created desirable collections. The cost of a low priced item is the labour and cost of selling it. Nothing changes when that item comes to being re-sold.

TIP 5). Now let's look at Public Auction. Yes – you will be hard pressed to find a Public Stamp Auction that does not accept on-line / live internet bidding. As with 'Pure Internet' stamp sales – and perhaps even more so – 'Caveat Emptor' (buyer beware becomes even more the mantra. Generally individual lots may have higher average values so that lots offered are often higher value collections, accumulations or higher value sets / singles / rarities. Such auctions are the 'haunts' of dealers and astute buyers ... but risk is attached, plus the absence of guarantees and the pernicious unpleasant buyer's premium + other charges which at certain auctions can convert a £1000 stamp purchase into as much as an invoice for £1,300.

TIP 5a). There are bargains to be had – but it is very much a 'big boys' playing field. Some of these auctions deliberately under-estimate lots that they know are worth far more ... so that they can then have the dubious pleasure of publicising that a £1,000 estimated lot realised £10,000, when perhaps their knowledge suggested it should have been estimated at upwards of £5,000 in the first place ... (hence – how wonderful they are).

TIP 5b). For certain types of lots such as actual Collections offered fairly intact the absence of guarantee combined with unreliable estimate means that for those who do not physically view a Public Stamp Auction and bid 'blind' – this is a dangerous place to be. Of course this may work to the advantage of an astute bidder who is actually present to physically view lots in the auction room. Historically that person was usually a Dealer. Perhaps less so these days.

TIP 6). Finally we come to look at **Postal Auctions/ Mail-Bid Sales**. First I must profess that I have an interest in a Mail-Bid / Postal Auction Sale. My company U P A conducts the largest postal auctions in the U K ... What should the Collector or Dealer be looking for here?

TIP 6a). Most **good** Postal Auctions including U P A offer Collectors a **No Quibble Refund Guarantee (NQRG)** ... and by 'No Quibble' I mean **NO QUIBBLE**. Look for this – it is crucial. You are probably not

actually seeing the stamps before bidding ... so no guarantee would mean unacceptable risk.

TIP 6b). Unlike Public Auctions most Postal Auctions 'break' many collections into smaller 'collector-sized' units so that you may find what you seek without having to purchase what you do not need - it follows that most of the stamps in most postal auctions may be owned by the company presenting the auction. It is not viable to sell low priced lots on a commission basis. Ask yourself why you may be asked to pay a buyer's premium? Is it actually a Vendor's lot or owned by 'The House'?

TIP 6c). The Buyer's Premium was introduced to 'split' cost between buyer and seller so that a 'low' seller's commission looks attractive (if you forget about the premium the buyer is paying for the seller's stamps). Be aware of this or deal with auctions not charging a buyer's premium. You are in control. You can bid anywhere that you find what you seek – but it is good to be aware and informed.

TIP 6d). Prices Realised are IMPORTANT. For some unknown reason – even some larger Postal / Mail-Bid Auctions still do not produce lists of what their lots sold for after the auction. Look for auctions providing this feature – it provides reassurance combined with a trackable 'snapshot' of current market values **PLUS** what is selling and what is not selling. You can learn such a lot from 'Prices Realised' – I study them each day.

TIP 7). Credit Cards. 75% of some auction sales are settled by credit / debit card. The Biggest in the land has no need to charge you for use of them ... Sheer volume of business accesses lowest rates. Why are you paying a premium to use your card? Is the supplier making a profit upon the extra % you are charged to use your card?

TIP 8). Look for unique 'Collector friendly' benefits that turn the disadvantage of lots not being sold to your advantage. U P A, for example, has for the past 15 years offered their Unique Reducing Estimate System (**URES**) whereby lots are increasingly reduced in estimate price till sold – some have reached one penny and then sold. Approaching one million lots have been offered through this system.

TIP 9). Cost of Delivery is one of the most annoying hidden costs that collectors absolutely abhor. Look for transparency in this area.

TIP 10). Beware the Seller / Auction NOT including Insurance when sending your winnings.

And Finally We come to choice ... and mind-set ?

TIP Without Choice we have nothing. So it follows that you need substantial choice to form a good, even great, stamp collection. You cannot do business when each time you 'visit' all you see is what you have seen before – stagnating stocks offered at prices that ensure continued stagnation. If choice is limited you'll never find philatelic items you need – or even that you were unaware of their existence. That's the joy of collecting. The thrill of the unexpected, the chance find. You need dealers that want to help and auctions that wish to serve – so, in stamps 'attitude is all'.

So when you're searching for a stamp auction compare it against your list above of what to look for and if and when you're offered a 'No Risk Free Trial' ... please turn to P.25 take it Now ♦

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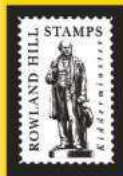
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Current Market Values



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FACE VALUES (FV)	Buy % of FV If Possible	
Stamps 1p to 26p	50%	Sorted by value
Stamps 27p to 39p	55%	Sorted by value
Stamps 40p to 68p	60%	Sorted by value
Stamps 69p to 89p	65%	Sorted by value
Stamps 90p to £3.00	73%	Sorted by value
Stamps £3.00 to £10.00	80%	Sorted by value
U/M Decimal Collections	55%	from 1971 to 1999
U/M Decimal Collections	60%	from 2000 to 2007
U/M Decimal Collections	65%	from 2008 to 2015
First (1st) Class NVI Stamps	60%	Commemoratives
First (1st) Class NVI Stamps	65%	Definitives & Booklets
Second (2nd) Class NVI Stamps	65%	Commemoratives
Second (2nd) Class NVI Stamps	67%	Definitives & Booklets
First Class LARGE NVI	70%	
Second Class LARGE NVI	70%	
Signed For & Special Delivery Stamps	70-75%	
Europe NVI Stamps	66%	All types
Worldwide NVI Stamps	66%	All types
Presentation Packs	50%	from 1971 to 1981
Presentation Packs	55%	from 1982 to 1990
Presentation Packs	60%	from 1991 to 2002
Presentation Packs	65%	from 2003 to 2015
PO Year Books	60%	from 1984 to 2014
Prestige Booklets	60%	for books up to £10 face value
Prestige Booklets	65%	for books over £10 face value
Booklets with Stamps up to 26p	50%	folding & retail etc
Booklets with Stamps over 27p to 39p	55%	folding & retail etc
Booklets with Stamps over 40p to 68p	60%	folding & retail etc
Smiler Sheets	60%	Lick & Stick Gum
Smiler Sheets	65%	Self-adhesive Gum
Aerogramme Airmail Letters	20p	each
1st & 2nd Class Post Paid Envelopes	35%	postal stationary
Guernsey & Alderney	25%	In sets or sheets
Jersey	20%	In sets or sheets
Isle of Man	30%	In sets or sheets

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Canada	£18	per \$100 Can
China	£4	per ¥100 CNY
Cyprus (Euro 2007>)	£30	per 100 euros
Denmark	£5	per 100 DKR
Falkland Islands	40%	of face value
Finland	£29	per 100 euros
France (euro)	£33	per 100 euros
France (franc)	£3.50	per 100 Francs
Germany	£52	per 100 euros
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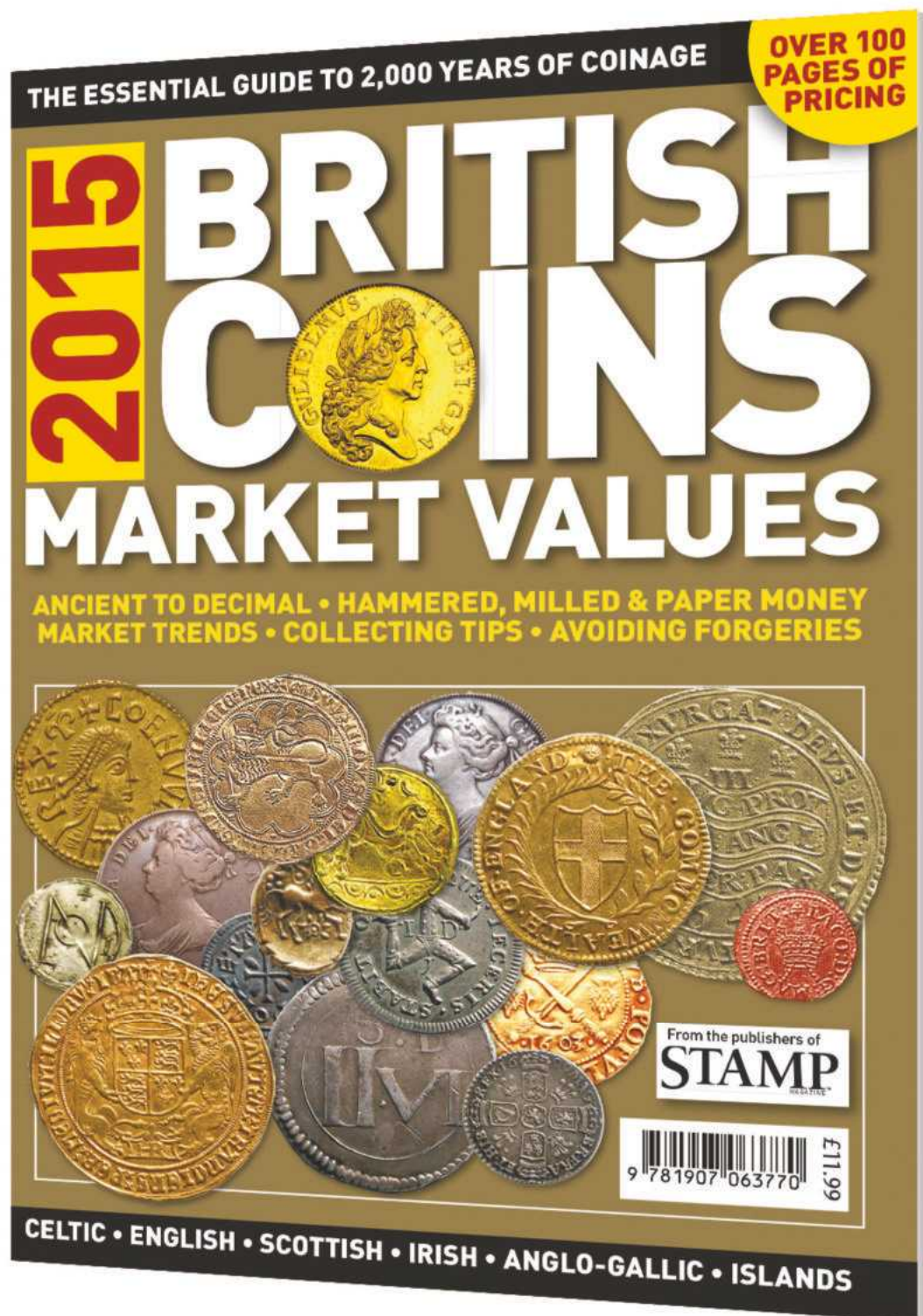
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Tudor penny blacks!

Among the rarest and most collectable of all penny black stamps are a set of four cinderellas from 1921. Queen Victoria, make way for your ancestors!

The celebrations for the 175th Anniversary of the Penny Black brought to mind a very interesting set of British cinderellas, the 'Tudor Penny Blacks'.

These are a set of four black colotype poster stamps, nominally priced 1d, portraying four of the Tudor monarchs: King Henry VIII, King Edward VI, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth I.

They were produced in 1921 by George Higlett, an accomplished but rather eccentric philatelist who was active a century ago.

Born in 1860, Higlett became a collector in 1890, later specialising in France, Great Britain, Greece, the Netherlands and Turkey.

His philatelic achievements were great, gaining a medal for his Netherlands exhibit at the London Exhibition of 1912, and a gold medal for his Turkey exhibit at the 1923 international. He was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1925.

He was regular contributor to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* between 1911 and 1922, but what gave him his lasting reputation were his self-published leaflets and booklets, collectively known as the Higlett papers.

In all, he wrote 42 leaflets and 20 booklets between 1910 and 1938, many of them being distributed at the annual Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. Some of them were serious treatises, but most were satirical essays.

All of Higlett's booklets contained issued stamps, except one. Booklet No4, entitled *Shakespeare As A Stamp Collector*



ABOVE: George Higlett's 1921 set of four poster stamps portraying King Henry VIII, King Edward VI, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth I



THE AUTHORS
Brothers Charles and Francis Kiddle are world authorities on cinderellas. Charles is a past Chairman of the Cinderella Stamp Club and Francis is a past President of the Royal Philatelic Society London

'George Higlett was a signatory of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, but was most renowned for his satirical essays'

and published in 1921, contained the four Tudor cinderellas, which he had produced himself.

At the back of the 24-page booklet is an imaginary letter from Fred J Melville, the founder and President of the Junior Philatelic Society, presented in Tudor style.

Only 136 copies were printed. A number of them were given out as presentation copies, while others

were sold at five shillings each to raise funds of the PCGB.

It is doubtful whether more than two complete sets of the Higlett papers survive today, and they fetch very high prices in auction. We have seen only one set of the four perforated stamps from booklet No4, and the number extant must be very small. ■

FURTHER READING

Higlett Bijou Bibliography
by Gavin Fryer (1997)

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Should examples of a withdrawn stamp still exist with specimen overprints?

Q One of an Anniversaries & Events set of four stamps from Cyprus in 1993 commemorated the country's new international waterskiing competition, the Moufflon Encouragement Cup. It was issued on May 24 but withdrawn one week later, on June 1, as it had been found that in the English script 'Moufflon' had been misprinted as 'Mufflon' in error. It was reprinted and then reissued on June 24.

Oddly, the 'Specimen' stamps on the philatelic market all have the corrected spelling. Should there also be examples with the incorrect spelling?

Aubrey Sheena, Bushey Heath

A The *raison d'être* of specimen stamps is that stamp-issuing countries send them to the Universal Postal Union, so that the UPU can distribute them to all other postal administrations worldwide as samples, helping them to identify genuine stamps. It must therefore be expected that 'Specimen' overprints of the stamp issued on May 24 were lodged with the UPU, as well as 'Specimen' overprints of the reprint issued on June 24. Presumably the difference is that the former never made it onto the philatelic market,

whereas the latter did.

Specimen stamps have habitually found their way onto the market in the past, not least from the smaller British Empire and Commonwealth countries.

Often this happened because they were presented to dignitaries as gifts, and later passed on to collectors.



On old covers, what do the initials 'QDC' stand for?

Q I have seen the manuscript endorsement 'QDC' written on several pre-stamp covers. What does a signify?
Gerald Wilson, Peterborough

A It stands for the Latin 'Quem deus conservet', which translates as 'Whom god preserves'.

Usually found on ship letters, essentially it was added in the hope of bringing good luck on the perilous journey ahead.



ABOVE: Letter carried by the Falmouth packet to New York in 1788, with the endorsement 'QDC' added by the sender in the lower left corner

GOT A QUESTION?

E-mail your question, with a 300dpi digital image, to: guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com. We will answer as many queries as we can on these pages, but please note that we are unable to respond to them by e-mail, post or telephone, and it might not be possible to solve and publish all that we receive.

Are these American local issues genuine?

Q These imperforate stamps inscribed City Letter Dispatch appear to be local issues by Squier & Co of St Louis, Missouri, dating from 1859-60. I understand that some values are quite scarce, but also that there are a lot of forgeries out there.

These are in poor condition, but are they genuine?

Paul Hanson, St Albans

A Sadly these are 20th-century reprints. They were produced in 1956 by the Mound City Stamp Club, also of Missouri, as a local stamp show souvenir, and have minimal value.



What is known about Royal Mail stamp cards which have been reprinted for other purposes?

Q The stamp card issued in 1992 for the Edinburgh Castle £2 stamp (NoD4) was reprinted in 2000, this time carrying information about the Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh moving from Brandon Street to South Gyle Crescent.

As far as I am aware, the card was not advertised or placed on sale anywhere. Can you tell me how many were printed, how it was distributed and its market value?

G Brightmore, Hinckley

A This card was not sold through philatelic outlets, and we were unable to unearth any further information about it.

Since it was not intended as a philatelic item, and was presumably distributed for purely promotional purposes, there may be no record of the number printed, although it was presumably very limited in comparison with standard stamp cards, which are a popular collectable. It is possible that there are very few surviving examples.

There have been various instances of 'PHQ' cards being used by Royal Mail for other purposes. For example, the card for the 22p stamp in the 1990 Astronomy set (No129b) was reprinted later in the same year to serve as a reply slip for an invitation to a Beethoven concert.

Again, the text on the reverse was revised for the purpose.



READERS' RESPONSES

DENMARK 1852 ESSAYS

I would like to add two pieces of information to the Q&A item about Martin Ferslew's 1852 essays for the second issue of Denmark (June issue, page 74).

Firstly, the reason why the design depicting King Frederik VII was not adopted was because it was thought improper to deface the royal portrait with a cancellation. Interestingly, this is something which would later affect the way Sicily's stamps portraying King Ferdinand were postmarked, but

which ultimately was deemed acceptable by most countries.

Secondly, the well-known philatelist Ernest Wise has suggested that the design depicting Mercury was based on a portrait of Louise Rasmussen, the ballet dancer who became the King's mistress when he was Crown Prince, and later hismorganatic wife under the title of Countess Danner.

From the photograph of the couple, I leave it to other readers to decide whether there is any truth in the story!

David Bond, Blackpool



ABOVE: King Frederik VII and Mercury, from Denmark's 1975 reproductions of Ferslew's 1852 essays



ABOVE: Frederik and Countess Danner, from a photograph taken around 1860

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Selling Your Stamps?

Summary Tip #24: No money spent: little value.

Dear Colleague,

One of the problems of producing a catalogue is that without prices most people will not be interested in buying the catalogue! Even today we refer to 50 year old reference books such as Robson Lowe (Publisher: Billig) – a world famous philatelist and dealer/auctioneer whose name you will find on many expert committee certificates.

You would think that the prices / information in these 50 year old catalogues would be useless but how wrong you would be. Such specialist catalogues are full of information that collectors who purchase SG catalogues today would find fascinating – such as premiums for multiples (always useful) and proofs, essays, forgeries and the like – surely an opportunity there for SG? Quantities printed / issued for example would shed so much light on catalogue values (Michel often includes this).

Prices from 50 year old Robson Lowe catalogues are easily related to catalogue values / prices today. Occasionally even now we come across unpriced specialist catalogues – they may be fine for purists but my experience of collectors is that part of the attraction to stamps is their relative rarity value. We all seek a 'find' and many who search diligently will make them ... but in practice so many collectors say to me "what is your best find?" ... and generally how disappointing the answer is. Full time 'philatelic professionals' do not have the time to turn each stamp and check for watermark / specialist varieties – anybody who collects / handles stamps knows how stamps 'suck' time and what a wonderful therapeutic

hobby philately is for those who are incapacitated ...

But to return to the subject of catalogues requiring prices one must then examine the relationship of the catalogue producer to the actual market place. So often this is overlooked ... yet one only has to look at a Stanley Gibbons catalogue to see the 'caveat' that their minimum catalogue price does not necessarily reflect value – rather it is the price that the only(?) public listed Stamp Company on any stock exchange worldwide – in stamp terms a large company – is prepared to sell that stamp for. If your company has a market value of £160 million pounds and a yearly turnover of £70 million then you can not sell 1p stamps for 1p – you are forced to have a minimum catalogue price BECAUSE what many people do not realise is that Stanley Gibbons catalogue price is actually the price that they will supply/sell that stamp in high quality to you. In practise I believe their Strand shop has long had a minimum selling price per stamp/set of £1 regardless of the stamp's market value.

So, it follows that if you have dozens of the same stamp and then thousands of different stamps in varying quantity – all catalogued by Stanley Gibbons at say an average of 50p each ... making a theoretical total catalogue value of £10,000 you may have 20,000 assorted stamps but your stamp holding may literally be worth as little as £50 or £2.50 per 1,000 stamps !

It is so easy to obtain thousands of stamps for so little money. For example our Avon Mixtures business will sell you a packet of over 2,000 assorted stamps – all off paper – for

as little as £15 or less than this to pick through. Just consider how much catalogue value there must be in this packet and how small an amount of money we are charging, and what a small price is asked for so much fun to sort through them. http://www.upastampauctions.co.uk/contents/en-uk/d3_Mixtures.html

Now, let's turn our attention to the status of other catalogue publishers. It follows that if you see a recent stamp catalogue with minimum catalogue values of literally a few pence/cents for the most common stamps then this is likely to be a more independent catalogue publisher pricing stamps by scarcity rather than by a minimum commercial price at which one could theoretically (but not really in practice) handle the sale of such a stamp. Such catalogue producers are unlikely to be able to supply such stamps to you at these prices or indeed may not sell stamps at all but typically low unit prices are what you may expect to pay for common stamps when purchased in mixtures.

The conclusion to draw is that 'catalogue value' depends upon the commercial status of the catalogue publisher and price for cheaper stamps may be totally unrelated to catalogue value.

Happy collecting from us all,

PS. If you find this 'tip' interesting please forward it to a philatelic friend.

Andrew McGavin

Managing Director: Universal Philatelic Auctions, Omniphil & Avon Approvals, Avon Mixtures, Universal Philatelic (Ebay)



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chris.king@postalhistory.net
www.nordia2015.se

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Contact: Hellenic Philatelic Society
www.hps.gr/notos2015
notos2015@hps.gr

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International Stamp Exhibition

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Contact: Hong Kong Philatelic Society, GPO Box 446, Hong Kong
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JANUARY 22-24

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USA

Southeastern Stamp Expo

Venue: Hilton Hotel Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross, Georgia 30092, USA.
Contact: Scott Mark
sestampexpo@gmail.com
www.sefsc.org

FEBRUARY 17-20

UK

Spring Stampex

Venue: Business Design Centre, 52

Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH.

Contact: Graham Childs, PO Box 981, Southsea, Hampshire PO1 9PG
Tel: 023 9283 2289
info@philatelic-traders-society.co.uk

FEBRUARY 26-28

USA

Texpex 2016

Venue: Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center, 1800 Highway 26E, Grapevine, Texas 76051, USA.
Contact: Vince King
vking@entechdesign.com
www.texasphilatelic.org/txpex

APRIL 30-MAY 1

CANADA

Orapex

Venue: RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.
Contact: www.orapex.ca

MAY 12-14

GERMANY

Essen International Stamp Fair

Venue: Messehaus Ost, Essen Exhibition Centre, Norbertstrasse 2, 45131 Essen.
Contact: Jan Billion, Messeagentur, Postfach 108 254, 40863 Ratingen, Germany
Tel: +49 2102 50675
info@briefmarkenmesse-essen.de

MAY 28-JUNE 4

USA

New York 2016 World Stamp Show

Venue: Jacob Javits Convention Center, 655 West 34th Street, New York City, New York 10001, USA.
Contact: Thomas M Fortunato, Chairman, Marketing & PR
Tel: +1 585 225 6822
info@ny2016.org
www.ny2016.org



ABOVE: The Grandstand at York Racecourse is the venue for the York Stamp & Coin Fair on July 17-18, this year incorporating the National Postal History Competition

Every care is taken to ensure the details published are accurate, but we cannot be responsible for any errors or cancellations. You are advised to check with the event organisers before setting out.

UK & WORLDWIDE AUCTION DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY 8-9

CHERRYSTONE

USA & Worldwide

Venue: Suite 316,
119 West 57th Street,
NY, New York 10019, USA.
Contact: Cherrystone Auctions
Tel: +1 212 977 7734
Fax: +1 212 977 8653
info@cherrystoneauctions.com
www.cherrystoneauctions.com

JULY 15

CAVENDISH

Worldwide Collections &
Philatelic Literature

Venue: 153-157 London Road,
Derby DE1 2SY.
Contact: Greg Spring
Tel: 01332 250970
Fax: 01332 294440
greg@cavendish-auctions.com
www.cavendish-auctions.com

JULY 15

CHERRYSTONE

Confino Collections of the
United States

Venue: Suite 316,
119 West 57th Street,
NY, New York 10019, USA.
Contact: Cherrystone Auctions
Tel: +1 212 977 7734
Fax: +1 212 977 8653
info@cherrystoneauctions.com
www.cherrystoneauctions.com

JULY 15

SPINK

Philatelic Collector's Series Sale

Venue: 69 Southampton Row,
London WC1B 4ET.
Tel: 020 7563 4000
Fax: 020 7563 4066
info@spink.com
www.spink.com

JULY 18-20

INTERASIA

Venue: Suite A,
13/F Shun Ho Tower,
24-30 Ice House Street,
Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: +852 2868 6046
Fax: +852 2868 6146
info@interasia-auctions.com
www.interasia-auctions.com

JULY 25

SOMERSET STAMP AUCTIONS

Venue: Hill Farm, Hemyock,
Cullompton, Devon EX15 3UZ.
Contact: Somerset Stamp Auctions
Tel/Fax: 01823 681358
www.somersetstampauctions.com

AUGUST 2

PROVINCIAL PHILATELICS

Venue: 90 Park Road,
Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 8QR.
Contact: Provincial Philatelics
Tel/Fax: 01235 511083
www.provincialphilatelics.co.uk

AUGUST 5

WARWICK & WARWICK

Venue: The Greville Suite, Lord
Leycester Hotel, Jury Street,
Warwick CV34 4EJ.
Contact: Chalon House, Scar Bank,
Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB
Tel: 01926 499031
info@warwickandwarwick.com
www.warwickandwarwick.com

AUGUST 8

BIL & CO

Venue: Washingborough
Community Centre, Fen Road,
Washingborough, Lincoln
LN4 1AB.
Contact: Bil Tilbury
Tel: 01400 230769
bilitilbury@btinternet.com
www.bilandco.co.uk

AUGUST 12

AJH STAMPS

Venue: Dunkenhall Hotel, Clayton-
le-Moors, Lancashire BB5 5JP.
Contact: The Laurels, Manchester
Road, Accrington, Lancashire
BB5 2PF
Tel: 01254 393740
sales@ajhstamps.co.uk
www.ajhstamps.co.uk

LOT TO BE DESIRED

For those who'd like to have a great King George VI collection but who haven't got the time to collect all the sets individually, Universal Philatelic Auctions' July postal sale could be just the ticket.

One single lot comprises six high-quality KGVI albums full with mint stamps, adding up to an almost complete British Empire collection.

To the 220 preprinted album leaves, around 70 blank ones have been added as well, to house shades, plate flaws and other interesting items.

The estimate for this mega lot, which can be viewed in its entirety on the UPA website, is £45,000.



ENGLISH-LANGUAGE POSTAL SALES

APEX

Tel: 01342 833413
info@apexstamps.com
www.apexstamps.com

COUNTY

county@stampauctions.co.uk
www.stampauctions.co.uk

MOWBRAY

Tel: +64 6 364 8270
mowbray.stamps@xtra.co.nz
www.mowbrays.co.nz

SANDAFAYRE

Tel: 01565 653214
stamp@sandafayre.com
www.sandafayre.com

UNIVERSAL

Tel: 01451 861111
info@upstampauctions.co.uk
www.upstampauctions.co.uk

VANCE

Tel: +1 905 957 3364
mail@vanceauctions.com
www.vanceauctions.com

ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ONLINE SALES

DALKEITH

www.dalkeith-auctions.co.uk

DELCAMPE

www.delcampe.net

MCCUSKER

www.jamesmccusker.com

MOWBRAY

www.mowbrays.co.nz

PHILATINO

www.philatino.com

RASMUSSEN

www.bruun-rasmussen.dk

REGENCY

www.regencystamps.com

ROGERS

www.michaelrogersinc.com

SAMMARINESE

www.filsam.com

SANDAFAYRE

www.sandafayre.com

SKANFIL

www.skanfil.no

STAMP CENTER

www.thestampcenter.com

STAMPFAIR

www.stampfair.com

STANLEY GIBBONS

www.stanleygibbons.com

TORRES

www.antoniotorres.com

TRAFFORD BOOKS

www.traffordbooks.co.uk

To include an event in this listing, we need at least two months' notice.
Send details to What's On, *Stamp Magazine*, MyTimeMedia Ltd,
Enterprise House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HG.
E-mail: guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com

UK FAIR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



JULY 11 BOURNEMOUTH

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Pelhams Park,
Millhams Road,
Kinson, BH10 7LH.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Solent Stamps
Tel: 01489 582673

COLWYN BAY

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Eirias High School,
Eirias Road, LL29 7SP.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: S J Chapman
Tel: 01745 826434

LITTLEHAMPTON

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: United Church, 1 High
Street, BN17 5EG.
Time: 10am-3.30pm
Contact: Chris Rapley
Tel: 07711 677760

NORTON

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Norton Methodist
Church Hall,
High Street, TS20 2QQ
Time: 9.30am-1.30pm
Contact: Northern Stamp &
Postcard Fairs
Tel: 01904 701464

RUISLIP

(stamps, postcards, covers)
Venue: Methodist Church
Hall, Ickenham Road, HA4 7DQ.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

TELFORD

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Belmont Community
Hall, off Tan Bank Car Park,

Wellington, TF1 1LU.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Bob Hemmings
Tel: 01694 720192

UPMINSTER

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: St Lawrence Church
Hall, Corbets Tey Road,
RM14 2AJ
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Graham O'Hara
Tel: 07710 683122

JULY 12 BEXLEY VILLAGE

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: The Freemantle Hall,
High Street, DA5 1AA.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: Lorne Webb
Tel: 01424 751518

MAIDSTONE

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Royal British Legion
Hall, British Legion Village,
New Road, Aylesford, ME20
7NL.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

WOKINGHAM

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St Crispin's Leisure
Centre, London Road,
RG40 1SR.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Nigel Stow
Tel: 01923 674999

JULY 17-18 YORK

(stamps, postal history,
postcards, coins)
Venue: The Grandstand, York
Racecourse, York YO23 1EX.
Contact: Kate Puleston
Tel: 020 8946 4489

JULY 18 BASINGSTOKE

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: The Costello School,
Crossborough Hill, RG21 4AL.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Paula Cant
Tel: 01256 415699

BRIGHTON

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Church of the Good
Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Road,
Hove, BN1 5AE.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

EXETER

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: America Hall, De La
Rue Way, Pinhoe, EX4 8PX.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Michael Hale
Tel: 01749 677669

GREAT BARR

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Collingwood Centre,
Collingwood Drive, Pheasey,
B43 7NF.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Dave Burnett
Tel: 07765 792998

SITTINGBOURNE

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Carmel Hall, Ufton
Lane, off West Street,
ME10 1JB.
Time: 10am-3.30pm
Contact: Chris Rapley
Tel: 07711 677760

WESTON-SUPER- MARE

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St Paul's Church Hall,
Walliscote Road, BS23 1EF.

Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: John Stuchbery
Tel: 01934 750421

JULY 19 ALTRINCHAM

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Cresta Court Hotel,
Church Street, WA14 4DP.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: R Cudworth
Tel: 01484 866777

KNOWLE

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: The Village Hall,
St John's Close, B93 0NH.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: Dave Burnett
Tel: 07765 792998

WINCHESTER

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Badgers Farm
Community Centre, Badgers
Farm Road, SO22 4QB.
Time: 10am-3.30pm
Contact: Chris Rapley
Tel: 07711 677760

JULY 21 BRISTOL

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Shirehampton Public
Hall, Station Road,
Shirehampton, BS11 9TX.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Noble Fairs
Tel: 07599 001101

JULY 25 BEXHILL-ON-SEA

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St Martha's Church
Hall, Cooden Sea Road, Little
Common, TN39 4SL.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

EALING

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Polygon Complex,
Ealing Parish Church,
St Mary's Road, W5 5EU.
Time: 9am-1pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

KENILWORTH

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Kenilworth School,
Leyes Lane, CV8 2DA.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: JRS Fairs
Tel: 01785 259350

KEYNSHAM

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: The Fear Institute,
High Street, BS31 1DG.
Time: 9.30am-4pm
Contact: Kevin Noble Fairs
Tel: 07599 001101

NORTHAMPTON

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: The Abbey Centre,
Overslade Close, East
Hunsbury, NN4 0RZ.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Dave Foster
Tel: 0115 9614528

PETERSFIELD

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Community Centre,
off Love Lane, GU31 4BW.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Solent Stamps
Tel: 01489 582673

ROSS-ON-WYE

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Units 1 & 2,
Cantilupe Court,
Cantilupe Road, HR9 7AN.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: BSA Auctions
Tel: 01989 769529

WANSTEAD

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Wanstead Library,
Spratt Hall Road, E11 2RQ.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Graham O'Hara
Tel: 07710 683122

JULY 26 ASCOT

(stamps, postal history)
Venue: British Red Cross
Centre, Heatherwood Hospital
Entrance 3, Kings Ride,
SL5 7RD.
Time: 9am-1pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

NEWHAVEN

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)

Venue: Denton Social Centre,
Denton, BN9 0PX.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: E G Langdon
Tel: 01273 514733

SOUTHPORT

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Royal Clifton Hotel,
The Promenade, PR8 1RB.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: R Cudworth
Tel: 01484 866777

STEVENAGE

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Novotel, Knebworth
Park, SG1 2AX.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Graham O'Hara
Tel: 07710 683122

WING

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Cottesloe School,
Aylesbury Road, LU7 0NY.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

JULY 30 PLYMOUTH

(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Guildhall, Armada
Way, PL1 2ER.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Solent Stamps
Tel: 01489 582673

JULY 31 CLYST ST GEORGE

(stamps)
Venue: Parish Hall, Woodbury
Road, EX3 0RE.
Time: 10am-4pm



Contact: Solent Stamps
Tel: 01489 582673

**AUGUST 1
BECKENHAM**
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Azelia Hall, Croydon Road, BR3 4DA.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: R&L Stamps
Tel: 020 8395 9285

HUDDERSFIELD
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: St Thomas Community Centre, Manchester Road, Longroyd Bridge, HD1 3HU.
Time: 9.30am-4pm
Contact: A Campbell
Tel: 01484 681559

LEICESTER
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Derby Room, Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Circle, LE1 5LX.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: John Suschitzky
Tel: 0116 2350441

LICHFIELD
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Boley Park Community Hall, Ryknild Street, WS14 9XU.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: JRS Fairs
Tel: 01785 259350

NORWICH
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Gate 1, Hewett School, Cecil Road, off Hall Road, NR1 2PL.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: Chris Spencer
Tel: 01953 602692

RAWRETH
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Parish Hall, Church Lane, SS11 8SH.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Steve Search
Tel: 01702 323682

RUISLIP
(stamps, postcards, covers)

Venue: Methodist Church Hall, Ickenham Road, HA4 7DQ.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

STOURBRIDGE
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Platters Café, Victoria Street, DY8 1SP.
Time: 9.30am-2pm
Contact: Chris Proctor
Tel: 07813260752

SWINDON
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Western Community Centre, Somerset Road, Rodbourne Cheney, SN2 1NF.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: V R Bullock
Tel: 07507 121990

WHITTON
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Twickenham Methodist Church Hall, Percy Road, TW2 6JL.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

WIMBORNE
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Allendale Community Centre, Main Hall, Hanham Road, BH21 1AS.

Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Brian Redpath
Tel: 01258 880878

**AUGUST 2
ALTRINCHAM**
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Cresta Court Hotel, Church Street, WA14 4DP.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: R Cudworth
Tel: 01484 866777

TAPLOW
(stamps, postcards, covers)

Venue: Taplow & Hitcham Woman's Institute Hall, Institute Road, SL6 0NS.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

**AUGUST 5
NEATH**
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Town Hall, SA11 3LL.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Dragon Collectors' Fairs
Tel: 01522 857343

**AUGUST 6
CARDIFF**
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Methodist Church, Nottingham Street, CF5 1JP.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Dragon Collectors' Fairs
Tel: 01522 857343

**AUGUST 7
LONDON**
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Royal National Hotel,



Bedford Way, Russell Square, WC1H 0DG
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Kate Puleston
Tel: 0208 946 4489

**AUGUST 8
ADDLESTONE**
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Community Centre, Garfield Road, KT15 2NJ.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

CRAWLEY
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: St Paul's Church Hall, Woodfield Road, Northgate, RH10 8ER.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

NORTON
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Norton Methodist Church Hall, High Street, TS20 2QQ
Time: 9.30am-1.30pm
Contact: Northern Stamp & Postcard Fairs
Tel: 01904 701464

REDBOURN
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Redbourn Village Hall, 63 High Street, AL3 7LW.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Graham O'Hara
Tel: 07710 683122

**AUGUST 9
UCKFIELD**
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Ridgewood Village

Hall, New Road, Ridgewood, TN22 5TG.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

WOKINGHAM
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: St Crispin's Leisure Centre, London Road, RG40 1SR.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Nigel Stow
Tel: 01923 674999

**AUGUST 15
BRIGHTON**
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Church of the Good Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Road, Hove, BN1 5AE.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

FINCHLEY
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, Essex Park, N3 1ND.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Graham O'Hara
Tel: 07710 683122

PRESTON
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Barton Village Hall, Garstang Road (A6), PR3 5AA.
Time: 9.30am-4.00pm
Contact: John Roberts
Tel: 07943 174958

READING
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: St Barnabas Hall, Grove Road, Emmer Green, RG4 8LN.

Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

THATCHAM
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Thatcham Memorial Hall, Bath Road (A4), RG18 3AG.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Paula Cant
Tel: 01256 415699

**AUGUST 16
ALTRINCHAM**
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Cresta Court Hotel, Church Street, WA14 4DP.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: R Cudworth
Tel: 01484 866777

AMERSHAM
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Jubilee Scout Hall, Rectory Hill, HP7 0BT.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: Dave Burnett
Tel: 01895 637283

KNOWLE
(stamps, postal history)

Venue: The Village Hall, St John's Close, B93 0NH.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: Dave Burnett
Tel: 07765 792998

LUTON
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Ramada Encore, Airport Way, LU2 9LF.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Graham O'Hara
Tel: 07710 683122



WHAT'S ON: SOCIETIES

SELECTED UK PHILATELIC SOCIETY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY 9

SHEFFIELD PS

The Write Stuff

by Wendy Buckle

Venue: Central United

Reformed Church,

60 Norfolk Street,

S1 2JB.

Time: 7.15-9.30pm

Contact: G M Spring

Tel: 0114 2685993

JULY 13

TAUNTON SC

Members Evening: Anything Goes!

Venue: Kilkenny Court,

Clifton Terrace,

Taunton, TA2 7QL.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Tony Nicholson

Tel: 01278 662702

JULY 14

BRADFORD & DISTRICT PS

Open Meeting

Venue: The Latvian Club,

5 Clifton Villas,

Manningham Lane, BD8 7BY.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Judith Holder

Tel: 01274 544 446

ROCHDALE PS

The Rhodesias

by Norman Pike

Venue: Unitarian Chapel,

Clover Street, OL12 6TP.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Neil Wharmby

Tel: 01706 665698

YORK PS

Dodecanese Islands

by P Woodness

Venue: The Denham Room,

Priory Street Centre, Priory

Street, YO1 6ET.

Time: 7pm

Contact: Richard M Billinge

Tel: 01904 411455

JULY 15

POYNTON PS

AGM & Auction

Venue: North Room, The

Community Centre, 107 Park

Lane, SK12 1RB.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Ron Phelps

Tel: 01625 877643

JULY 22

LYTHAM ST ANNES PS

AGM & Trophy

Presentations

Venue: The Drive Methodist

Church Hall, East Bank Road,

FY8 1ND.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Karen Evans

Tel: 01253 310622

JULY 23

SHEFFIELD PS

Countries Beginning With

E, M or U

Venue: Central United

Reformed Church, 60 Norfolk

Street, S1 2JB.

Time: 7.15-9.30pm

Contact: G M Spring

Tel: 0114 2685993

AUGUST 3

PETERSFIELD PS

Visit From Hayling

Island PS

Venue: Petersfield

Community Centre,

Petersfield, GU31 4BW.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Tony Shaw

Tel: 01730 264518

AUGUST 7

POOLE & DISTRICT P&PC

Great Britain Airmails to

1914 by Roy Hollis

Venue: Pooton Community

Centre, Pooton Road, Upton,

BH16 5JA.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: John Hilton

Tel: 01929 555052

AUGUST 8

NATIONAL PS

Ethiopia by Tristan Brittain

Venue: The Welsh Centre,

157-163 Gray's Inn Road,

London WC1X 8UE.

Time: 2.45pm

Contact:

www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps

AUGUST 11

BRADFORD & DISTRICT PS

Open Meeting

Venue: The Latvian Club,

5 Clifton Villas,

Manningham Lane, BD8 7BY.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Judith Holder

Tel: 01274 544 446

ROCHDALE PS

AGM & Members' Displays

Venue: Unitarian Chapel,

Clover Street, Rochdale

OL12 6TP.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Neil Wharmby

Tel: 01706 665698

AUGUST 12

BROMLEY & BECKENHAM PS

Great Moments in History

Venue: Public Hall, Bromley

Road, Beckenham BR3 5JE.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Davie Rennie

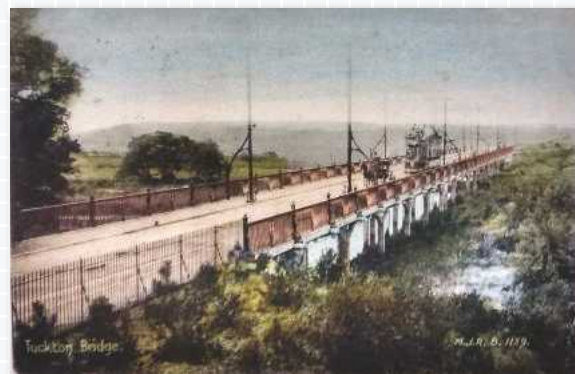
Tel: 020 8778 7009

FERNDOWN P&PC

As its name suggests, postcards feature in practically every meeting of the Ferndown & West Moors Philatelic & Postcard Club, but in April it held an evening meeting completely dedicated to them, and the breadth of the displays was impressive.

There were presentations by Terry Tuck on the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, Mike Trickett on Paris, Chris Wheeler on railway cards illustrated by Terence Cuneo, Graham Judd on Robert Burns, Don Seaby on Chesham, Ken Baker on election cards and Paul Lear on eclipses and eruptions.

Local themes included the Tucton Bridges at Christchurch by John Duckworth, and Bournemouth by John Garrett and Trevor Smythe.



ABOVE: Postcards featuring a tram on Tucton Bridge in Christchurch (top) and horse-drawn carriages and early automobiles on the Avenue des Champs-Élysées in Paris (bottom), shown by John Duckworth and Mike Trickett respectively

EVESHAM & DISTRICT PS

Evesham & District Philatelic Society is producing its first commemorative cover, to celebrate the 750th anniversary of the Battle of Evesham in 1265.

This was the battle at which Simon de Montfort, the 6th Earl of Leicester and the founder of England's parliamentary system, was defeated and killed by the forces of King Henry III.

A limited edition of 500 covers will feature stamps from the 1965 issue marking the 700th anniversary of de Montfort's Parliament, and a 'Posted on the battlefield' cachet. They will be available from August 4, priced £8 each including postage (cheques payable to R James).

Contact R James, 11 Wincombe Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 7UA.





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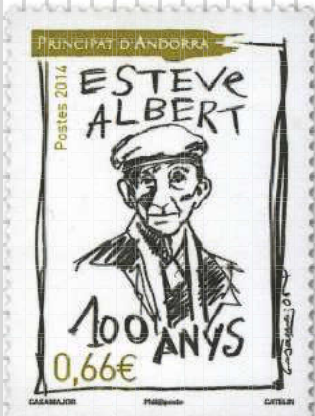
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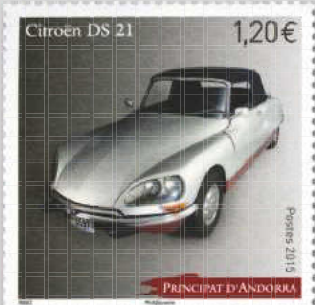
008 ANDORRA (French)
Butterfly



010 ANDORRA (French)
History of Skiing



011 ANDORRA (French)
Estève Albert



015 ANDORRA (French)
Automobile Museum

YOUR IN-DEPTH GUIDE TO THE LATEST RELEASES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

This directory lists Great Britain first, followed by other countries in alphabetical order. It is limited to countries in which stamp issues are sold in post offices and for which reliable information is available. We aim to keep our listing as up-to-date as possible, but in attempting to provide more comprehensive detail than other guides we do not necessarily list every country each month. The three-digit number which appears before the date of each issue is for cross-referencing with the Thematic Checklist at the end of this section.

GREAT BRITAIN (last listed in July 2015)

001 March 24, 2015

Definitives. Machin Head

Design: Jeffery Matthews, after relief portrait by Arnold Machin.

Printing: gravure, De La Rue. Die-cut perf 14½ x 14 with elliptical cut-outs on vertical sides. Two phosphor bands. Security overlay with year code 'M15L' above the Queen's forehead.

Self-adhesive sheet stamps:

£1.33	Queen Elizabeth II, amber yellow
£1.52	Queen Elizabeth II, orchid mauve
£2.25	Queen Elizabeth II, plum purple
£2.15	Queen Elizabeth II, spruce green
£3.15	Queen Elizabeth II, aqua green
£3.30	Queen Elizabeth II, rose pink

Note: denominations represent revised postage rate steps, introduced March 30, 2015. Colour names quoted are those used by Royal Mail and printed on left side of sheets

002 March 24, 2015

Definitives. Country Stamps

Design: Sedley Place (England), Rodney Miller Associates (Northern Ireland), Tayburn (Scotland) or Tusssels Enterprise (Wales).

Printing: litho, International Security Printers (Cartor). Perf 14¾ x 14, with elliptical cut-out on vertical sides. Two phosphor bands.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 25.

£1.00	England: oak tree
£1.33	England: Tudor rose
£1.00	Northern Ireland: linen slip case from Lisburn Museum
£1.33	Northern Ireland: parian china from Ulster Museum
£1.00	Scotland: thistle
£1.33	Scotland: tartan pattern
£1.00	Wales: daffodil in Welsh slate
£1.33	Wales: Prince of Wales' feathers

Note: intervening issues were listed in June and July

003 May 6, 2015

175th anniversary of the Penny Black

Design: Sedley Place.

Printing: litho, International Security Printers. Perf 14.6 x 14, with elliptical cut-outs on vertical sides. Two hard-edged phosphor bands.

Miniature sheet (2 x 2): 4 stamps arranged in a chequer-format block.

1st (63p) x 2 1840 Penny Black, corner letters SC, overlain with Machin profile of Queen Elizabeth II and '1st' in white

1st (63p) x 2 1840 Twopenny Blue, corner letters QB, overlain with Machin profile of Queen Elizabeth II and '1st' in white
Border: printing presses at Perkins Bacon & Petch, where the original stamps were printed (archive photograph)

Note: uncut press sheets of 15 miniature sheets (3 x 5), including borders with printer markings, were also sold. A limited edition of the miniature sheet with an additional inscription printed in the frame around the stamps and a serial number under the title of the issue was available only at the London 2015 Europhilex exhibition in London from May 13-16, priced £4.95

004 May 6, 2015

175th anniversary of the Penny Black

Design: Sedley Place.

Printing: litho, International Security Printers.

Die-cut perf 14¾ x 14, with elliptical cut-outs on vertical sides. Two soft-edged phosphor bands.

Self-adhesive booklet (£3.78): stamps affixed to inside back cover in 2 rows of 3, with matrix removed.

1st (63p) x 6 1840 Penny Black, corner letters SC, overlain with Machin profile of Queen Elizabeth II and '1st' in white
Cover: 6 x 1st and 'Royal Mail' logo
Inside front cover: London 2015 Europhilex promotion and quote from Rowland's Hill's original proposal for postage stamps

ANDORRA French Post Offices (last listed in Nov 2014)

005 July 11, 2014

Art. Javier Balmaseda

Design: Stéphanie Ghinéa.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste, France.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 20 (4 x 5).

1.55€ *Horses*, artistic installation by Balmaseda (Cuban artist, b1970) showing two horses supported by props

006 July 25, 2014

Museum of Electricity, Andorra la Vella

Design: Eduard Comellas.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 50.

1.10€ MV Museum building

007 July 25, 2014

Folk Dance, 4th issue. Ball de Santa Anna

Design: Sophie Beaujard.

Engraving: Yves Beaujard.

Printing: recess and litho, PhilaPoste.

Miniature sheet:

1.65€ dancers performing Ball de Santa Anna, in Escaldes-Engordany

Border: buildings of Escaldes-Engordany, and standing cross

008 Sept 6, 2014

Butterfly

Design: Angel Calvente.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 50.

0.83€ autumn ringlet, *Erebia neoridas*

009 Sept 26, 2014

Art. Retable de Sant Miquel de Prats

Design: Joan Xandri.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 20.

1.10€ *La Caiguda dels Àngels Rebels* (the fall of the rebel angels), altarpiece by the Masters of Canillo, Miquel Ramells and Guy de Borgonyó, in church of St Michael, Prats

010 Oct 17, 2014

The History of Skiing in Andorra

Design: Enric Cardus.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 20 (5 x 4).

0.83€ wooden skis and ski-pole (early skiing artifacts) and Pyrenean mountain

011 Nov 8, 2014

Estève Albert, 1914-1975

Design: Stéphanie Ghinéa, after portrait by Jordi Casamajor.

Engraving: Elsa Catelin.

Printing: recess, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 20 (5 x 4).

0.66€ portrait of the theatre director, writer and politician

012 Nov 28, 2014

Christmas 2014. Altarpiece

Design: Alex Tena.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 50.

0.66€ *The Birth of Christ*, relief painting from the Church of Sant Eulària in Encamp

013 Jan 2, 2015

Benvingudes Art Exhibition. Work by Javier Balmaseda

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste, France.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 20 (4 x 5).

1.90€ *Instint de Conservació*, artistic installation by Balmaseda (Cuban artist, b1970) showing stacked crates

014 Feb 6, 2015

Sagas & Legends series. The Legend of the First Snow

Design: Sergi Mas.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 50.

3.07€ man and cattle in a snowstorm

015 March 19, 2015

Automobile Museum of Andorra

Design: Francesc Ribó.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 30 (5 x 6).

1.20€ Citroën DS21, 1965

016 April 10, 2015

75th anniversary of Colonel René Boulard's Departure from Andorra

Design: Pere Moles.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 50.

0.76€ two policemen, and the Colonel as pillion passenger on motorcycle with sidecar

BARBADOS

(last listed in March 1915)

017 Dec 18, 2014

Gardens of Barbados

Design: miniature sheet stamps based on sailors' valentines, as stamp issue of 2013.

Printing: litho.

Sheet stamps:

10c Gardenia Gardens
(view across garden to ocean)

65c Hunte's Gardens

\$1.80 Glendale Gardens

\$2.20 Eusteen's Garden

Miniature sheet (2 x 2):

\$1 floral craft arrangement

\$1 floral craft arrangement

\$1 floral craft arrangement

\$1 floral craft arrangement

BELIZE

(last listed in Aug 1914)

018 April 8, 2015

Centenary of the Salvation Army in Belize

Printing: litho.

Sheet stamps:

25c girl with easel, painting poster
'Sharing is caring'

\$2 Salvation Army House in Belize

BERMUDA

(last listed in Feb 2015 issue)

019 Dec 18, 2014

Mystery Roses, 2nd issue

Design: from photographs supplied by Bermuda Rose Society.

Printing: litho. Non-denominated, inscribed 'Zone 1'.

Sheet stamps: arranged in horizontal se-tenant strips of 5.

- (70c) four yellow roses

- (70c) white rose

- (70c) pink rose (petals in circle)

- (70c) pale yellow rose

- (70c) white and pink rose

Sheet stamps: arranged in horizontal se-tenant strips of 5.

- (70c) white rose with pink colouration

- (70c) light yellow rose (petals open)

- (70c) pale pink rose

- (70c) deep orange rose

- (70c) pink rose (petals curled)

Booklet: single pane of 10 (5 x 2), arranged se-tenant in a different order from sheet stamps.

- (70c) white and pink rose

- (70c) four yellow roses

- (70c) white rose

- (70c) pink rose (petals in circle)

- (70c) pale yellow rose

- (70c) pink rose (petals curled)

- (70c) white rose with pink colouration

- (70c) light yellow rose (petals open)

- (70c) pale pink rose

- (70c) deep orange rose

Cover: two pink roses (China roses)

Note: stamps are uninscribed. 'Mystery roses' are those growing in Bermuda gardens whose provenance has been lost

020 Jan 15, 2015

Botanical Paintings by Charlotte Anna Lefroy

Printing: litho. Non-denominated, inscribed 'Zone 2'.

Sheet stamps: arranged in horizontal se-tenant strips of 5.

- (85c) clematis sp

- (85c) *Magnolia grandiflora*

- (85c) *Cleome speciosa*

- (85c) *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*

- (85c) *Plumeria rubra*

Sheet stamps: arranged in horizontal se-tenant strips of 5.

- (85c) *Clitoria fernatea*

- (85c) *Dendrobium moschatum*

- (85c) *Passiflora edulis*

- (85c) *Pereskia aculeata* and *Pereskia bleo*

- (85c) *Capsicum baccatum*

Booklet: single pane of 10 (5 x 2), arranged se-tenant in a different order from sheet stamps.

- (85c) *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*

- (85c) *Plumeria rubra*

- (85c) clematis sp

- (85c) *Magnolia grandiflora*

- (85c) *Cleome speciosa*

- (85c) *Pereskia aculeata* and *Pereskia bleo*

- (85c) *Capsicum baccatum*

- (85c) *Clitoria fernatea*

- (85c) *Dendrobium moschatum*

- (85c) *Passiflora edulis*

Cover: folder collecting the Lefroy paintings.

Note: the paintings were made from 1871-1877, when Lefroy's husband John Henry Lefroy was Governor of Bermuda. They are in the care of the Bermuda National Trust

021 April 16, 2015

50th anniversary of The Bermuda Regiment

Printing: litho.

Sheet stamps:

35c serviceman in woodland clearance

70c servicemen in dinghy, engaged in coastal defence

80c Band & Corps of Drums in procession

\$1 inspection by Queen Elizabeth II

\$1.75 parade of regimental colours

Note: formed September 1, 1965 from merger of Bermuda Rifles and Bermuda Military Artillery

FINLAND

(last listed in July 2012)

022 Nov 7, 2011

My Stamp. Rose Hips

Design: Ari Lakaniemi and Susanna Rumpu.

Printing: litho, Cartor (base design). Die-cut perf 11½ with ellipticals on horizontal sides.

Self-adhesive generic personalisable sheet:

sheets of 20, composite with surround.

2LK (0.60€) x 20 rose hips in frost

Note: generic printing of a personalisable design, also available as a 1LK (1st class) stamp

023 Nov 7, 2011

Christmas 2011, 1st issue

Design: Kaarina Toivonen.

Printing: litho, Walsall Security Printers, UK.

Self-adhesive sheet stamp: sheets of 20, designs composite with surround.

55c boy elf and two lambs (stuffed toys), balls of wool

Self-adhesive sheet stamp: sheets of 10, designs composite with surround.

2LK (0.60€) girl elf swinging on a mobile made from wheat straw

024 Nov 7, 2011

Christmas 2011, 2nd issue

Design: Aino-Maija Metsola and Georgi Eremenko.

Printing: litho, Walsall Security Printers, UK.

Die-cut perf 13¾. Non-denominated.

Self-adhesive sheet stamp: sheets of 10 (5 x 2).

1LK (0.75€) *Light in the Windows*, graphic artwork of houses under snow

025 Jan 23, 2012

Love. Valentine Hearts

Design: Paavi Unengi, cartoon-style.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 13¾. Non-denominated (2nd class).

Self-adhesive miniature sheet (2 x 3)

2LK (0.60€) coloured birds on a wire, with

heart-symbols

2KL (0.60€) girl watering heart-shaped seeds

2KL (0.60€) swarm of red heart-shapes

2KL (0.60€) girl cuddling a dog, and heart-shapes

2KL (0.60€) girl blowing heart-shaped bubbles

2KL (0.60€) heart-shapes congregating around lock and key in pink heart-shaped door

026 Jan 23, 2012

Opening of the Sámi Culture Centre (SAJOS)

Design: Merja Aletta Ranttila.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut with smooth edges. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive miniature sheet: 4 free-form stamps, designs composite with border.

1LK (0.75€) warrior

1LK (0.75€) figures wearing crowns on boat

1LK (0.75€) reindeer

1LK (0.75€) Sami mother-goddess

Border: floor plan of SAJOS, including an enclosure containing dwellings

027 Jan 23, 2012

Helene Schjerfbeck, 1862-1946

Design: Teresa Moorhouse, after works by the



017 BARBADOS
Gardens of Barbados



018 BELIZE
Salvation Army



021 BERMUDA
Bermuda Regiment



024 FINLAND
Christmas 2011

SCOT 8 — RARE ANTI NAZI COVER: Commemorating the brave Shetland Islanders, who risked their lives in World War II, shipping supplies, arms, saboteurs and agents to Nazi Occupied Norway. Known as the Shetland Bus; the return journey was an escape route for refugees from the Gestapo. The rare cover of which only 75 are known to exist bears two Hildasay Shetland Island map stamps, with red Hildasay cachet, plus Royal Mail Machin issue postmarked with Baltasound Shetland pmk. Dated 15/5/12 and re-cancelled by the Royal Mail with Scalloway Shetland Isl. Ship postmark dated 17/5/12. Seldom offered for sale Price..... £18.

UK. 84 GREAT BRITAIN — Royal Mail Elusive Mount Pleasant Sorting Office Cover. Issued to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the GPO Mount Pleasant Office, officially opened on 30/8/1889, on the site of Coldbath Prison. Once acknowledged as the largest post sorting office in the world, it continues to handle millions of postal items daily. Only 100 of this important cover were ever produced. Bearing the iconic Machin stamp pmkd. With "double circle" Royal Mail Official Mount Pleasant pmk. Dated 30/8/14. Offered in superb condition £7.50

B98 BOLIVIA — A specialised collection of Bolivian Stamps ranging from early and older stamps to more recent. Containing mint & used with many better overprinted and engraved stamps, 100s of different Bolivian stamps. The fine collection — Price £15

E 40. EIRE. - The elusive cover commemorating the centenary of the Ireland Home Rule Act of 1914; granting the whole of Ireland Home Rule. The act was postponed for the duration of World War I. and subsequently never enacted; vital to complete any collection of Ireland postal history. Only sixty of these covers are known to exist. The cover bears a green Irish stamp with double rimmed Belfast Royal Mail pmk. Dated 18/9/14 in combination with an Eire map stamp with "Home Rule for tire" squared cachet in blue. — Price £14.50

CH17. GB WORLD WAR I — Sir Winston Churchill World War I, Commem. Cover. The Centenary Cover which was a limited edition of only 100 covers, commemorated the spiriting away of the UK's Naval Fleet from Portland Base to Scapa Flow, in the Orkneys on 28/7/1914. Churchill's pragmatic first action of World War I. The cover bears the special Churchill, Royal Mail commemorative, pmkd. With Royal Mail Maritime Scapa Flow Orkney Illustrated pmk. Dated 28/7/14. — Price £9.75

AH92. AUSTRIA/HUNGARY & BOSNIA - A superb stamp collection. Noted, Bosnia Austro-Hungarian military post stamps of 1900 (these are offered for sale "as is" without guarantee), they form part of a larger collection of genuine Austria & Hungary with mint and used stamps. If all the stamps were genuine the catalogue value would be over £550. But some stamps may be faux. Offered "as is" — Price..... £21

SA37 PANAM CANAL- Impressive Cover Commemorating the Centenary of the opening of the Panama Canal. Superbly Illustrated with Panama Canal Map and Quote by — W. H. Taft. Taft served as Secretary of War under Theodore Roosevelt and supervised the building of the Canal; he later became 27th President of the USA. The cover was a restricted issue of only 100. It bears a USA ship stamp tied to the cover with small purple cachet inscribed "Zona del Canal de Panama" also British stamp used in combination with Royal Mail ship and bi-plane Southampton pmk. 15/8/14. — Price £14

RU46. RUSSIA- A superior collection of the stamps of Russia; strength in Soviet Union Issues with multitude of thematic subjects. Several hundred different Russian stamps (Miniature sheets noted) — Price £15

HRH72. KING EDWARD VIII- Great Britain K.E. VIII special commemorative cover. The scarce cover commemorates the 120th Anniv. of the Birth of K.E. VIII, quoting the famous abdication speech. "I found it impossible to carry the heavy burden of responsibility and to discharge my duty as King, as I would wish, without the help and support of the woman I love." From a severely restricted world-wide issue of only 60 covers. The cover bears the K.E.VIII Royal Mail commemorative with first day of issue Royal Family Tree Postmark dated 2/2/12. Unusually the cover was re-posted on 23/6/14 and cancelled with the official Royal House of Windsor Arms pmk. The cover also bears the complete British Original K.E.VIII set of 1936 definitive stamps, tied to the cover with boxed purple cache, inscribed "King Edward VIII GPO postage stamp Issue September 1936" We offer this important and valuable cover for sale.....Price £24.50

H54. ISLE OF HILDASAY - Scarce China related cover commemorating the 70th Anniv. of the Dixie Mission. The cover depicts Mao Tse Tung and American soldiers in 1944. Inscribed in English and Chinese the cover unusually bears a combination of Royal Mail and Shetland island stamps; bearing a Shetland £1 stamp depicting Mao Tse Tung with red Hildasay Island Cachet in combination with Royal Mail postage stamp pmkd. with official Royal Mail penguin pmk. at Unst (Britains most northerly post office) on 22/7/14. Only 60 of the Dixie mission cover where ever known to exist & seldom offered for sale Price..... £13.50

M884. MEXICO A superb accumulation of only unmounted mint Mexican stamps, including sheets, multiples, blocks and singles. Well over 400 unmounted mint Mexican Stamps and several miniature sheets. Many older beautifully engraved unmounted mint stamps, all genuine, with a catalogue value of approx. £200. — Price only£29 the lot.

GER15. HELIGOLAND - A valuable cover for the centenary of the battle of Heligoland. This was the first Naval Battle and first British Naval victory of World War I. Superbly Illustrated depicting the German cruiser SMS Coln. The battle of Heligoland ended with 3 German cruisers and 1 destroyer being sunk by the British. The cover bears a Heligoland stamp with German Cross cachet inscribed "Deutsches Reich — Heligoland" also a British stamp with Lions and Crown London Pmk. with the centenary date of 20/8/14. Originally 100 covers existed, but mostly in collectors hands they are rarely available for sale. Recommended at our price of £18.50

WL82 WEIGHTLIFTING — An unusual thematic collection of weightlifting stamps, including mint and used stamps in blocks and singles; many better and elusive stamps noted, including the scarce Greek Olympic weightlifting champion and medal winner, Leonidas Sampanis, Sampanis was found to have cheated by taking drugs. His medal was withdrawn and the special Greek Sampanis postage stamps were withdrawn from sale over night. The scarce Sampanis drug cheat stamp is only one in this specialist weightlifting collection of well over 100 stamps. The entire collection — Price £14.25

SC17 SCOTLAND — Important and historic cover for the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314; superbly illustrated with a scene of Robert the Bruce at Bannockburn. The cover bears the Royal Mail, Robert The Bruce commemorative stamp issue tied with official Royal Mail Edinburgh Illustrated pmk. Dated 24/6/2014 — exactly 700 years to the day of the historic event, Only 100 of this important Scottish cover exist Price £9.50

SC18 SCOTLAND - A political cover for the Scottish Independence referendum; one of the biggest events in Scottish history; the referendum gave the option to over four million Scots to vote for independence. The cover bears both Scottish & Royal Mail UK stamps. Pmkd. with Scottish official pmk. dated 18/9/14 (The referendum date) Although over four million people voted barely 100 of this scarce cover were ever produced, surely making this one of the scarcest of all Scottish commemorative covers. — Price ... £13

D30 GERMANY - An impressive specialised collection of Germany, with many unmounted mint and used stamps; dating back to older Bavaria and Wurttemberg issues also Germania stamps. Following on to inflation stamps (circa 1920's 1930's) on to World War II, Nazi issues includes Theresienstadt; (without guarantee — as is). On to Hitler issues: Croatia, Bohemia and Moravia, war stamps (Genuine). Later issues for East and West Germany, includes postage dues elusive overprinted stamps with blocks and singles. Several hundred different German stamps — Price..... £23

FEM2. GREAT BRITAIN UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE - An important GB cover for the Centenary of the release of all Suffragettes from prison on 10/8/1914. The British Government after negotiations with Emmeline Pankhurst announced it was releasing all suffragettes from prison. In return the Women's Social and Political Union agreed to end all militant activity and assist in the war effort. The cover with iconic suffragette votes for women illustration bears a British definitive stamp with official Royal Mail Victorian style duplex Berkhamssted 66 pmk. on the anniversary dated 10/8/14. The cover also bears the votes for women commemorative stamp issue tied with red cachet inscribed "Universal Suffrage — Votes for Women". Severely restricted and limited issue of 100 covers (few available) — Price..... £12.75

M83 MIDDLE EAST — Important collection of Middle East Stamps includes: Persia (Iran)8(Iraq. Also noted: Qatar, Aden State, Yemen, Trucial States, Dubai, Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan — Including older stamps of Trans-Jordan. Several hundred different unmounted mint and used stamps, a great collection to build on — Price..... £26.50

SAM.1. POLAND - small general collection, include - Nazi Occupation Concentration Camp issue inscribed 'Judenpost' for Lodz Ghetto (Litzmanstddt) 10pf Green (unused). We cannot guarantee this item but remainder of the collection all seem OK Cheap Price £8.75

SJ120 MEDICAL Stamps with specialised lot of Anti-TB and Red Cross stamps. Also Anti-Malaria stamps Red Cross stamps back to the 1940s or earlier up to more recent. With nursing, doctors and all forms of medicine. A most interesting subject rarely offered for sale ideal for anyone with some medical knowledge to form a valuable collection Price £7

LET K2 GREAT BRITAIN. UNMOUNTED MINT COMMEMORATIVES & DEFINITIVES UNSORTED ACCUMULATION. Items noted include Traffic Light Gutter Pair Missing Phosphor Error coil strips. Well over 500 stamps, only unmounted mintPrice £18

EUR 33 EUROPA - A specialised European thematic Collection of Europa stamps, spanning from the 1950's to more modern stamps. Includes Italy, France, Germany, Iceland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Cyprus, Netherlands, G.B. Denmark, Portugal, Spain, Swiss, Finland, Greece, Sweden. Also scarcer local issues for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. Hundreds of all different Europa Stamps, mainly fine used, but mini noted.....Price £17

FR 229 FRANCE & COLS - A smashing collection of France with French Colonies & Ex Colonies. Mainly Commemorative stamps in singles and blocks. Some unmounted mint, but mostly fine used. A lovely collection with many engraved stamps; several hundreds, mostly differentPrice £21

LU 328 LUNDY ISLAND - A superb collection of unmounted mint British local stamps of Lundy Island in blocks, large multiples and singles + miniature sheet. Starts off with King George VI period. "Lundy & Atlantic Coats Air Lines Ltd. "Following on to puffin stamps overprinted with 1950s & 1960s stamps on to more recent. With lots of "Puffin" stamps, definitives, commemoratives & Air Mail stamps. Hundreds of unmounted mint Lundy Stamps Price £27.50

B COM 434 ORNITHOLOGY - A fantastic thematic collection of British Commonwealth BIRDS stamps. Only Unmounted Mint in multiples and single stamps. Several Hundred Brit, Commonwealth Bird Stamps including High Value (£) pound & (\$) Dollar stamps in blocksPrice £39

CR 781 CRICKET - A valuable specialised collection of cricket stamps & scarce cricket covers, including signed covers autographed by famous cricketers. Comprising of Unmounted Mint Great Britain and British Commonwealth Stamps in blocks of four or singles with several high value (\$) Dollar values. Approx 18 cricket covers including scarce autographed covers & a quantity of Unm. Mint Cricket StampsPrice £25

PER 5 - PERSIA & IRAN - A fine collection of several hundred Persia & Iran stamps, includes mint and used dating back to early engraved "Shah" stamps to more modern issues. Several Hundred different stamps, a good collection to build uponPrice £14

MC.334 - MUSIC - An awesome & valuable collection of music stamps begins with an orchestra of musical instrument stamps. The specialist classical section includes: Mozart, Beethoven, Bach, Tchaikovsky, Verdi, Bartok. Also jazz and popmusic stamps, with Louis Armstrong, Frank Sinatra, Oasis, Marlene Dietrich. With G.B. Royal Mail stamps of Freddy Mercury, The Beatles and Pink Floyd. A multiple of other issues for Rolling Stones, Jimi Hendrix, Michael Jackson, Kylie Minogue, Elvis Presley and many more> Hundreds of stamps - mint and used with several miniature sheets. The best Music collection we have ever seen.....Price £29.25

C545 - WORLD COLLECTION - A great starter lot, with mint & used stamps also noted: miniature sheets, phq cards and several fdc's. Several hundred different world wide stamps plus other items Low price to clearPrice £9.75

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artist and graphic designer.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 13 x 13¼. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive booklet: pane of 4 different-sized, separately spaced designs.

1LK (0.75€) *Elementary Schoolgirl* (painting)

1LK (0.75€) *Still Life*: green apple with glass of champagne (painting)

1LK (0.75€) *Self-Portrait* (painting)

1LK (0.75€) *Silk Stockings*: young woman putting them on (lithograph)

028 Jan 23, 2012

Helsinki, World Design Capital 2012. Graphic Art

Designs: Kokoro & Moi, after winning entries in Future City competition, chosen by a jury.

Printing: litho with lacquer (varnish) layer, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 9 (wavy line) or irregular with geometrically-shaped indentations. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive booklet (6.00€): 8 stamps in different formats.

1LK (0.75€) *Colour Power* by Varpu Kangas: coloured hand-prints

1LK (0.75€) *Mix* by Varpu Kangas: colored shapes filling an unframed rectangle

1LK (0.75€) *Future City* by Chloe Chapeaublanc: blue buildings

1LK (0.75€) *Happy Town* by Siri Henttonen: umbrella filled with water hanging from tree branch, buildings and balloons

1LK (0.75€) *Movement of the City* by Daniel Kallström

1LK (0.75€) *Bravely Towards The Future* by Elias Ollila (aged five): flying creature under sun and over trees

1LK (0.75€) *City Rabbit* by Katja Hynninen

1LK (0.75€) *Attitude* by Villa Koirhonen: snarling cat and naked fat man on bicycle

029 March 5, 2012

150th anniversary of State Railways

Design: Tarka Salonen.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 9¾. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive booklet (4.50€):

1LK (0.75€) engineer (driver), and steam locomotive hauling passenger train

1LK (0.75€) train ticket, and two-car diesel passenger unit

1LK (0.75€) railway crossing road-sign, and diesel-powered train in snow

1LK (0.75€) station clock, and passengers on platform beside stationary train

1LK (0.75€) conductor in uniform, and modern double-deck carriages

1LK (0.75€) sculpture of stone-lifter from Helsinki Central Station, and modern high-speed Allegro train

Note: designs are trapezium-shaped (two opposite parallel sides and two opposite non-parallel sides)

030 March 5, 2012

Greetings. Wedding Invitations

Design: Ari Lakaniemi and Susanna Rumpu.

Printing: litho, serigraphy and die-stamping, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 14. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive sheet stamp: sheets of 10.

1LK (0.75€) pair of wedding rings

031 March 5, 2012

Greetings. Kisses Blown

Design: Ulla Bergström.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 12¾. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive booklet (3.00€):

1LK (0.75€) woman blowing heart-shaped kisses

1LK (0.75€) catching falling fruit (strawberries, blueberries and gooseberries) in drinking glasses

1LK (0.75€) women's legs with high-heeled dancing shoes

1LK (0.75€) two women in bathing costumes, and musical notes

032 March 5, 2012

Easter Greetings

Design: Janne Harju.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut imperf x perf 8 (wavy edge). Non-denominated.

Self-adhesive sheet stamp: sheets of 10 (2 x 5).

1LK (0.75€) hare and chick painting an Easter egg

033 March 5, 2012

Spring Flowers

Design: Klaus Welp. All designs depict dried flowers.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 13¾. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive miniature sheet:

1LK (0.75€) anemone hepatica, *Hepatica triloba*

1LK (0.75€) spring vetchling or spring pea, *Lathyrus vernus* (or *Orobis vernus*)

1LK (0.75€) least gagea, *Gagea minima*

1LK (0.75€) lungwort, *Pulmonaria officinalis*

1LK (0.75€) marsh marigold, *Caltha palustina*

1LK (0.75€) fumewort, *Corydalis solida*

Note: sheet is shaped around the edges to simulate a pressed-flower album

034 March 21, 2012

World Ice Hockey Championships, Helsinki & Stockholm

Design: Toni Kysenius.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 14. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive sheet stamp: sheets of 10.

1LK (0.75€) Hockeybird, the tournament mascot

035 March 21, 2012

Nordic Issue. Life At Sea

Design: Klaus Welp.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Perf 13¾ through backing paper. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive miniature sheet: 2 se-tenant stamps, designs composite with border.

1LK (0.75€) lifeboat

1LK (0.75€) coastguard/border guard vessel *Merikarhu*

Border: lifeboat crewmember and air-sea rescue helicopter

036 May 7, 2012

Sunflowers

Design: Ossi Heikkala.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut part perf 12 and smooth wavy line around shape of flower-head. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive sheet stamps: sheets of 10, designs composite with border.

1LK (0.75€) sunflower and stem (vertical design)

1LK (0.75€) sunflower head (horizontal format)

037 May 7, 2012

The Bothnian Sea National Park

Design: Teemu Ollikainen.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 13¾. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive panel (7.50€):

1LK (0.75€) x 10 map locating the park, and coastal scene with vegetation and rocks

038 May 7, 2012

Europa 2012. Visit Finland

Design: Johannes Ekholm, from tourism posters.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 13¼ x 13, perforated through backing sheet. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive panel (5 x 2): hang-sell panel containing 10 stamps in 5 vertically se-tenant pairs.

1LK (0.75€) x 5 tourist boat on Lake Saimaa

1LK (0.75€) x 5 beach scene at Hankko

039 May 7, 2012

Clouds

Design: Timo Berry, from photographs. All designs include the meteorological cloud symbol.

Printing: litho, Enschedé. Die-cut perf 10 with elongated cut-out on lower side. Non-denominated (1st class).

Self-adhesive coil stamps: stamps separately spaced on horizontal strip.

1LK (0.75€) cloud, *stratus nebulosus*

1LK (0.75€) cloud, *altocumulus lenticularis*

1LK (0.75€) cloud, *cumulonimbus capillatus*

040 May 7, 2012

Sports for the Disabled. Finnish Paralympic Athletes

Design: Klaus Welp.

Printing: litho and relief printing (braille characters), Enschedé. Die-cut perf 11½ x 11¾. Non-denominated (1st class).

Miniature sheet: 2 stamps, designs composite with border.

1LK (0.75€) Leo-Pekka Tähti, wheelchair racer

1LK (0.75€) Sanna-Maria Sinisalo, archer

Border: Petri Posio and Erkki Miinala (ball sports), Jani Kallunki (judo), Marko Tormänten and Jarmo Ollanketo (pursuit and road race cycling)

FRANCE

(last listed in May 2015)

041 June 14, 2014

150th anniversary of the Birth of Benjamin Rabier

Design: Sophie Beaujard, after Rabier's cartoons.

Engraving: Pierre Bara.

Printing: recess, PhilaPoste.

Miniature sheet: 2 stamps and 1 label, designs composite with border. Format 85mm x 130mm.

0.66€ Gideon Duck (cartoon character) surrounded by dancing baby rabbits, chicken, duckling, two songbirds

1.10€ portrait drawing of Benjamin Rabier, 1864-1939, and chicken, duck, piglet and squirrel

Label: pair of adult rabbits



033 FINLAND
Spring Flowers



038 FINLAND
Visit Finland



034 FINLAND
World Ice Hockey Championships

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Miniature sheet: 2 stamps, designs composite with border. Format 95mm x 120mm.

- 0.66€ Gideon Duck (cartoon character) surrounded by dancing baby rabbits, chicken, duckling
1.10€ portrait drawing of Benjamin Rabier, 1864-1939, and chicken, duck, and rabbits

Border: rabbits dancing in a meadow under moonlight, squirrel
Note: both sheets were released at Stamp Salon Paris, with general release following on June 23. The second sheet was sold in a card folder, at a premium price of 6.00€

042 June 14, 2014

150th anniversary of the French Red Cross

Design: Valérie Besser. All designs reproduce Red Cross charity stamp designs of the past, graphically redenominated.

Printing: litho, PhilaPoste.

Miniature sheet: 5 separately spaced stamps.

- 0.61€ + 0.30€ sower design with red cross on tablet of September 1914 (originally 10c + 5c)
0.61€ + 0.30€ sower design with overprinted red cross emblem of August 1914 (originally 10c + 5c)
0.61€ + 0.30€ Red Cross nurse design of 1939 (originally 90c + 35c)
0.61€ + 0.30€ Charles Roux (hospital ship) and shelled hospital design of 1918 (originally 15c + 5c)
0.61€ + 0.30€ nurse inoculating child design of 1966 (originally 30c + 10c)

Miniature sheet: 5 separately spaced stamps.

- 0.61€ + 0.30€ family, doctor, nurse and patient design of 1940 (originally 80c + 1f)
0.61€ + 0.30€ François Broussais (pathologist) design of 1972 (originally 50c + 10c)
0.61€ + 0.30€ symbolical design of 1988 (originally 2.20f + 0.60f)
0.61€ + 0.30€ Henri Dunant design of 1958 (originally 20f + 8f)
0.61€ + 0.30€ nurse with wounded soldier design of 1940 (originally 1f + 2f)

Note: all stamps have the imprint 'Phil@Poste 2014' at foot. The pair of sheets were sold collected in a folder, at 12.00€

043 June 15, 2014

80th anniversary & Reopening of Paris Zoological Gardens

Design: Eric Viennot.

Printing: gravure, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 30 (3 x 10).

- 0.98€ heads of lemur, jaguar, flamingo and giraffe

044 June 17, 2014

Jean Jaurès, 1856-1914

Design & Engraving: Louis Boursier.

Printing: recess, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 48 arranged in 24 se-tenant pairs.

- 0.61€ portrait of the socialist politician, journalist and peace campaigner
1.02€ Jaurès in a coat and hat, making speech

Note: campaigner against mobilisation and warfare, assassinated on August 31, 1914

045 June 17, 2014

Salon du Timbre Exhibition, Paris. Ceres Stamp of 1849

Design: Jacques-Jean Barre, with engraving by Elsa Catelin. All designs show the 1849 Ceres stamp redrawn.

Printing: recess or typography, PhilaPoste. Imperforate.

Sheetlet (5 x 4): 20 stamps arranged in 4 rows of 5.

- 1€ x 5 Ceres, recess-printed in deep carmine (positions 1,3,5,17,20)
1€ x 5 Ceres, typographically printed in orange-vermilion (positions 2,4,16,18,19)
1€ x 5 Ceres, recess-printed in orange-vermilion (positions 6,9,10,12,14)
1€ x 5 Ceres, typographically printed in deep carmine (positions 7,8,11,13,15)

Border: Ceres profile and mock postmark in orange-vermilion

Note: the stamps in positions 8 and 14 are inverted, creating tête-bêche pairs

046 June 19, 2014

The 1950s

Design: Stéphane Humbert-Basset.

Printing: gravure, PhilaPoste.

Miniature sheet:

- 0.66€ transport: car, Panhard Dyna 2 (1953), with Peugeot 203 parked behind
0.66€ electricity: *Pour Votre Travail*, *l'Électricité*, poster by Raymond Savignac, 1907-2002, showing woman with broom, formed from wire and plug
0.66€ holidays: couple loading a Renault Dauphine with suitcases, hula-hoop, record player, parasol, beachball, transistor radio
0.66€ cinema: usherette with sales tray during film screening
0.66€ music: brass band playing
0.66€ fashion: models with two styles of dress, c1950 and c1960

Note: in the third stamp the transistor radio is actually a 1960s artifact

047 June 19, 2014

Tourism. Coaraze, Alpes-Maritimes

Design: Sylvia Cornet.

Engraving: Elsa Catelin.

Printing: recess, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 48.

- 0.61€ view of the village of Coaraze

Note: this stamp was available from June 18 at the Salon du Timbre exhibition

048 June 20, 2014

Archaeological Site at Locmariaque, Morbihan, Brittany

Design & Engraving: Sarah Bougault.

Printing: recess, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 48.

- 0.61€ grave entrance and grand menhir

049 June 21, 2014

National Philatelic Congress 2014, Paris

Design & Engraving: Claude Andreotto.

Printing: recess, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 36 stamps with 36 se-tenant labels.

0.61€ Institut de France, Quai de Conti, Paris (exterior)

Labels: piers of bridge over River Seine

050 June 20, 2014

Greetings. Baccarat Valentines

Design: Maison Baccarat (crystal glassware maker).

Printing: recess and serigraphy incorporating crystal powder, PhilaPoste.

Sheetlet: 5 heart-shaped stamps, individually spaced, design composite with border.

3.00€ x 5 Zénith crystal chandelier (deep red silhouette) and golden 'rays'

Note: stamp motif is essentially as the Baccarat sheetlet of five 0.61€ values released on January 7, 2014 (listed in October 2014), but with chandelier and inscription 'Baccarat' changed from embossed white to deep red. The sheetlet border also has no barcode

051 June 22, 2014

Art. Jean Dufy, 1888-1964

Design: Valérie Besser, from photograph of Dufy's painting by Jacques Bailly.

Printing: gravure, PhilaPoste.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 30 (5 x 6).

- 1.65€ *The Seine from the Pont du Carrousel*, oil painting by Dufy

IRELAND

(last listed in July 2015)

052 April 13, 2015

Centenary of the Gallipoli Campaign

Design: Vermilion Design, from photographs.

Printing: litho, BDT.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 16.

- 68c soldiers from Ireland in a trench at Gallipoli, one raising his helmet over edge
1€ troop carrier SS Clyde, beached on Gallipoli shore

Note: SS Clyde transported 2,000 troops to Gallipoli

053 May 14, 2015

Europa 2015. Old Toys

Design: Design Factory, from paintings by Comhghall Casey.

Printing: litho, BDT.

Sheetlet of 10: with enlarged illustrated borders.

- 68c tipper truck
Sheetlet of 10: with enlarged illustrated borders.
€1 teddy bear

ISRAEL

(last listed in Feb 2015)

054 Nov 25, 2014

Season's Greetings. Christmas

Printing: letterpress, with denomination and coding added thermographically by machine. Imperf x perf 9.

Self-adhesive vending machine label:

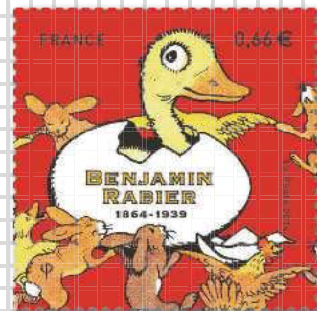
- † Mary holding baby Jesus, stars
Note: standard philatelic distribution was of a 1.80sh value from machine 001

055 Nov 25-Dec 2, 2014

Definitives. Gerbera series

Design: Tuvia Kurz and Miri Nistor.

Printing: flexography. Die-cut perf 13.3 x 13.6.



041 FRANCE
Benjamin Rabier



046 FRANCE
The 1950s



052 IRELAND
Gallipoli Campaign

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Self-adhesive sheetlet of 20: issue date Nov 25.
10ag red single gerbera
Border: two-menorah reprint designator, and print date '11.11.2014'

Self-adhesive sheetlet of 20: issue date Dec 2.
5ag yellow double gerbera
Border: three-menorah reprint designator, and print date '11.2014'
Note: the sheetlets fold to form booklets (the 'cover' is printed on the reverse)

056 Dec 16, 2014

Sundials

Design: David Ben-Hador.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs.
2.70sh sundial in the Jewish quarter of old Jerusalem, 1st century AD
3.80sh sundial in the courtyard of the Al Jezzaz Mosque in Acre (Akko), constructed in 1786
5.60sh sundial on southern wall of Zoharer Chama Synagogue, Jaffa Street, Jerusalem, constructed in 1908

Maximum cards: set of 3 (photographs of the sundials in their location)
Note: the sundial shown on the 2.70sh design was discovered in a ruined building in the early 1970s. The image is a computerised reconstruction

057 Dec 16, 2014

Hanukkah 2014

Design: Rinat Gilboa.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs.
9sh two children with menorah lamp with nine lit candles
Tab: fried fruits in a bowl

058 Dec 16, 2014

Arik Einstein, 1939-2013

Design: Miri Nistor.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheetlet: 9 stamps and 3 tabs, designs composite with illustrated border.
1.80sh portrait photograph of the singer-songwriter and recording artist performing

059 Dec 16, 2014

Israel's Automobile Industry

Design: Piri Hamou, from his photographs.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs.
3.80sh Standard Carmel, 1936, built by Palestine Motors Co at Haifa Bay
4.00sh Sabra Sport, 1961, built by Autocars based on a Reliant prototype (Reliant built the same car in the UK, named Sabre)
4.10sh Kaiser Manhattan, 1951, saloon car manufactured at Neshet (the factory closed when Kaiser USA was shut in 1953)
8.30sh Safa Jeep, 1992, off-road vehicle, manufactured by AIL in Nazareth Illit under licence from Jeep USA (upgraded model still in production)

Tab: head-on profiles of the vehicles
Note: all vehicles depicted are owned by Israeli collectors; the 3.80sh shows a car manufactured in Britain in 1946, but reportedly identical to the Palestine model

060 Dec 16, 2014

Orchids

Design: Zina and Zvika Roitman.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs.
5sh bee orchid, *Ophrys fuciflora* (Israel), and monkey orchid, *Dracula simia* (Ecuador)

Tab: flags of Israel and Ecuador (which extend as ribands onto stamp design)
Note: joint issue with Ecuador

061 Jan 15-Feb 5, 2015

Definitives. Gerbera series

Design: Tuvia Kurz and Miri Nistor.

Printing: flexography. Die-cut perf 13.3 x 13.6.

Self-adhesive sheetlet of 20: issue date Feb 5.
30ag deep orange triplee gerbera
Border: two-menorah reprint designator, and print date '6.01.2015'

Self-adhesive sheetlet of 20: issue date Feb 5.
1sh magenta double gerbera
Border: five-menorah reprint designator, and print date '6.01.2015'

Self-adhesive sheetlet of 20: issue date Jan 15.
40ag white triple gerbera
Border: two-menorah reprint designator, and print date '6.01.2015'
Note: the sheetlets fold to form booklets (the 'cover' is printed on the reverse)

062 Jan 15, 2015

Hebrew Sign Language

Design: reprint of the issue of April 8, 2014 (listed in October 2014).

Printing: flexography. Die-cut perf 13.25 x 14. Non-denominated.

Self-adhesive booklet: 20 stamps arranged in 4 horizontal strips of 5, designs composite with surround. Sold flat.

- x 4 sign for 'Goodbye'
- x 4 sign for 'Love'
- x 4 sign for 'Friendship'
- x 4 sign for 'Kiss'
- x 4 sign for 'Thanks'

Cover (reverse side): two-menorah reprint designator

063 Jan 27, 2015

Ariel Sharon, 1928-2014

Design: Zvika Roitman, after photograph by Saar Yaacov.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 9 stamps and 3 tabs.
2.10sh photograph of Ariel Sharon, Prime Minister of Israel 2001-2006

064 Jan 27, 2015

Relations Between Israel & The Philippines

Design: Ronen Goldberg.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs.
4.50sh Open Doors monument in Memorial Gardens, Rishon Le Zion, Israel, and flags of Israel and Philippines

Tab: world map with arrow connecting central Europe and Philippines
Note: tab design recalls President Manuel Quezon of the Philippines' acceptance of Jewish refugees from Europe in the late 1930s; some 1,300 made the journey. Joint issue with the Philippines

065 Feb 10, 2015

Winter Flowers

Design: Tuvia Kurz and Ronen Goldberg.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs with composite designs.

1.80sh coast false chamomile, *Anthemis leucanthemifolia*

2.10sh Dyer's alkanet, *Alkanna tinctoria*

2.70sh crown anemone, *Anemone coronaria* (pink and red varieties)

066 Feb 10, 2015

Chess

Design: David Ben-Hador.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs.
4.10sh strips of chequers from chessboard, with pieces in place, twisted into a Star of David shape

Note: European Individual Chess Championship 2015, staged in Israel

067 Feb 10, 2015

International Year of Light

Design: David Ben-Hador.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 15 stamps and 5 tabs.
11.80sh diagram of the protein rhodopsin (seven helices connected to each other by peptide loops), and diagram of the Schroeder equation (spectral colours entering eye)

Tab: logo of International Year of Light and diagrammatic representation of rods and cones (retinal cells within the eye for discerning black-and-white and colours respectively)

Note: Nobel Prize laureate Erwin Schroeder formulated his quantum mechanics equation in 1925

JAMAICA

(last listed in April 2014)

068 Dec 11, 2014

350 Years of St Andrew Parish Church

Design: from photographs.

Printing: litho.

Sheet stamps:

\$20 view of the church from outside
Church Gate

\$60 view of church from outside
churchyard wall

\$120 view of church from outside
churchyard gate

Miniature sheet:

\$200 stained glass windows

MONTSERRAT

(last listed in June 2015)

069 March 24, 2015

The Leatherback Sea Turtle

Design: from photographs.

Printing: litho, C&C Security Printers, China.

Sheetlet (2 x 2):

\$3.25 leatherback sea turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea*, swimming in deep water

\$3.25 turtle on beach, at shoreline

\$3.25 female turtle on beach, heading for ocean

\$3.25 turtle swimming, near sea bed

Miniature sheet: design composite with border.



054 ISRAEL
Season's Greetings



057 ISRAEL
Hanukkah 2014



056 ISRAEL
Sundials



068 JAMAICA
St Andrew Parish Church

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\$7 hatchling turtle crawling towards sea (overhead photograph)

Border: silhouettes of other marine species
Note: the leatherback is the largest sea turtle; hatchlings were spotted on Woodlands Beach, Montserrat, in July 2014, the first reported sightings since the 1980s

NEW ZEALAND

(last listed in July 2015)

070 May 6, 2015

Native Seashells

Design: New Zealand Post, Wellington.

Printing: litho, Southern Colour Print, with raised gloss layer ('synseal overgloss').

Sheet stamps: sheets of 25.

80c silver paua, *Haliotis australis*
\$1.40 Scott's murex, *Rolandietta scotti*
\$2.00 golden volute, *Provocator mirabilis*
\$2.50 fan shell, *Talochlamys gemmulata*
\$3.00 opal top shell, *Cantharidus opalus*

Miniature sheet:

80c, \$1.40, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, designs as sheet stamps, in se-tenant rows of 2, 3

Border: opal top shell (in grey)

Note: an imperforate miniature sheet with differing border illustration was sold in a limited-edition pack, also containing mint sets, first day cover and colour-separation prints

NIUE

(last listed in Feb 2015)

071 Dec 10, 2014

Christmas 2014

Design: New Zealand Post, Wellington. All designs show Christmas tree baubles with patterns taken from traditional tapa bark clothwork of 19th century.

Printing: digital print, NZ Post Collectables & Solutions Centre, Whanganui.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 16.

30c blue baubles with dot pattern or star shape

\$1.40 red baubles with dot pattern or spoke shape

\$2.00 green baubles

\$4.00 purple baubles with diamond pattern

Miniature sheet (4 x 1):

30c, \$1.40, \$2.00, \$4.00, designs as sheet stamps

072 April 7, 2015

Tapa Bark Cloth Art

Design: New Zealand Post, Wellington.

Printing: NZ Post Collectables & Solutions Centre, Whanganui.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 16.

30c pattern of small squares and leaf shapes

\$1.00 pattern of squares in grid infilled with geometric and foliage shapes

\$2.00 wheel pattern with eight spokes, with geometric shapes infill

\$4.40 repeating diamond pattern

Miniature sheet:

30c, \$1.00, \$2.00, \$4.40, designs as sheet stamps

Note: patterns are usually drawn freehand on pieces of the tapa bark cloth, which is then layered and arranged. This hiapo art, popular in the 19th century, has recently undergone a resurgence in Niue

NORFOLK ISLAND

(last listed in Feb 2015)

073 Nov 3, 2014

Christmas 2014. Fabric Designs by Sue Pearson

Design: Mary Pavich, after hand-printed textiles by Sue Pearson of Norfolk Island featuring breadfruit, passion flower, taro, turtle shell and hibiscus. All designs also include a monochrome detail from the pattern.

Printing: litho, Southern Colour Print using metallic inks

Sheet stamp: sheets of 25, arranged in panes of 10 and 15 separated by illustrated gutters.

15c leaf pattern in blue and green

65c leaf and flower pattern in maroon

\$1.70 plants and turtle-shell pattern in purple, blue and green

\$1.80 leaf pattern in silvery green

\$2.55 leaf and flower pattern in deep red

Note: vertical pairs form a composite design

074 March 19, 2015

225th anniversary of the Wreck of HMS Sirius

Printing: litho, Southern Colour Print. Die-cut perf 10 x 10½.

Self-adhesive booklet (\$7.00): 10 stamps arranged in 5 rows of 2, composite with surround.

70c diver at underwater monument

70c HMS Sirius, painting by John Allcot

70c *The Melancholy loss of HMS Sirius*, painting by John Raper

70c cross belt plate from HMS Sirius

70c portrait painting of Captain John Hunter

70c anchor, on ocean bed

70c HMS Sirius in profile, painting by Francis Bayldon

70c cannonades

70c bronze shackles

70c pantograph, over a chart

Cover: painting by Allcot, and anchor

Note: flagship of the First Fleet, struck a reef off Norfolk Island on March 19, 1790. Excavations were undertaken in 1983 and 2002

PITCAIRN ISLANDS

(last listed in March 2015)

075 Dec 11, 2014

75th anniversary of the Byrd Expedition to Pitcairn, December 13-14, 1939

Design: Denise Durkin.

Printing: Southern Colour Print, New Zealand.

Sheet stamps: arranged in horizontally se-tenant strips of 5, comprising 4 stamps (two composite pairs) and 1 central label.

\$1.00 Rear Admiral Richard E Byrd with Pitcairn islanders, and cachet of mimeographed commemorative cover for visit of USMS *North Star*

\$1.00 USMS *North Star* off Pitcairn Island, ship's tender (landing supplies) and stamped and postmarked section of commemorative cover

\$2.00 USNS *North Star* and Pullman Snow Cruiser (experimental vehicle carried by Byrd expedition to the Antarctic)

\$2.00 Pullman Snow Cruiser (rear) and Richard E Byrd in polar headwear

Labels: Byrd visiting a Pitcairner at his home
Note: the *North Star* was able to hand over

much-needed supplies to Pitcairn, including foodstuffs, gasoline, lubricating oil and matches

ST KITTS

(last listed in June 2013)

076 June 27, 2011

40th anniversary of the St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla National Bank

Printing: litho.

Sheet stamps:

10c bank headquarters building in Basseterre, St Kitts

\$3 10th anniversary logo

077 July 5, 2011

Mother Teresa

Designs: after photographs.

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet (2 x 2):

\$2.75 Mother Teresa (Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu) with Ronald and Nancy Reagan

\$2.75 Mother Teresa before convent wall with inscription 'Peace'

\$2.75 Mother Teresa holding a child

\$2.75 Mother Teresa with Jacques Chirac (mayor of Paris)

Border: smiling

Sheetlet (2 x 2):

\$2.75 portrait

\$2.75 with Prince Charles

\$2.75 holding a young baby

\$2.75 meeting a young mother and a child

Border: hands together

078 July 14, 2011

150th anniversary of the American Civil War. The Battle of Gettysburg, 1863

Design: from 19th-century prints and magazine illustrations. Stamps and borders bear portraits of General Robert E Lee and General George G Meade (first sheetlet), General James Longstreet and Major-General Oliver O Howard (second sheetlet) or General Richard S Ewell and Brigadier-General George S Greene (third sheetlet).

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet (2 x 2):

\$2.50 Union position at Cemetery Ridge

\$2.50 Hazlitt's Battery (Union artillery)

\$2.50 Union artillery pounding Cemetery Ridge

\$2.50 Union artillery and Cemetery Hill

Sheetlet (2 x 2):

\$2.50 behind the breastworks on Culp's Hill

\$2.50 Jubal Early's attack upon East Cemetery Hill

\$2.50 CSA 2nd Maryland Infantry on Culp's Hill

\$2.50 Confederate pickets at Culp's Hill

Sheetlet (2 x 2):

\$2.50 cavalry engagement at Gettysburg

\$2.50 Battle of Gettysburg

\$2.50 hand-to-hand combat at Gettysburg

Battery

\$2.50 Battery A, 1st Rhode Island, Cemetery Ridge

079 July 14, 2011

Elvis Presley, 1935-1977

Design: from photographs by Alfred Wertheimer in 1950s (first sheetlet) or Joe Petruccio in 1960s (second sheetlet).



069 MONTERRAT
Leatherback Sea Turtle



070 NEW ZEALAND
Native Seashells



072 NIUE
Tapa Bark Cloth Art



073 NORFOLK ISLAND
Christmas 2014

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet (1 x 4):

- \$3 Elvis playing piano
- \$3 Elvis in performance, playing guitar
- \$3 Elvis in performance, singing and looking over right shoulder
- \$3 Elvis in performance, on one knee holding microphone stand

Border: as fourth design

Sheetlet (2 x 2):

- \$3 Elvis, back turned, in silver and gold robe
- \$3 Elvis singing (posterised portrait)
- \$3 Elvis and microphone, under orange stage lighting
- \$3 Elvis with both arms raised

Note: stamps and borders are inscribed '75' to note 75th anniversary of his birth in 2010

080 July 14, 2011

Diana, Princess of Wales, 1961-1997

Designs: from colour photographs.

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet (4 x 1):

- \$2.75 greeting crowds (early 1980s)
- \$2.75 in turquoise dress, holding the baby Prince William
- \$2.75 in red dress with white collar
- \$2.75 in checked coat (during honeymoon at Balmoral, 1981)

Miniature sheet:

- \$6 in fluffy white coat and red top

081 July 14, 2011

Wedding of Prince William of Wales & Catherine Middleton, April 29, 2011

Design: from wedding day photographs.

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet:

- \$2 Catherine Middleton in wedding headdress
- \$2 Prince William in Guards cap
- \$2 Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (close-up)
- \$2 Duke of Cambridge (waving) with Duchess of Cambridge
- \$4 Catherine Middleton in wedding dress, on arrival at Westminster Abbey

Note: the \$4 design is vertical, double-format

Sheetlet:

- \$2.75 Duke and Duchess of Cambridge after the wedding ceremony
- \$2.75 Duke and Duchess of Cambridge after the wedding ceremony (different)
- \$2.75 Duke and Duchess of Cambridge after the wedding ceremony (different)
- \$2.75 Duke and Duchess of Cambridge after the wedding ceremony (different)

Miniature sheet:

- \$6 the couple smiling, after ceremony

082 July 14, 2011

Exotic Flowers

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet: 6 triangular stamps arranged in a hexagonal block.

- \$2 bird of paradise flower, *Strelitzia reginae*
- \$2 gardenia, *Gardenia jasminoides*
- \$2 'Dutch' amaryllis, *Amaryllis hippeastrum* sp
- \$2 ginger, *Etlingera elatior*
- \$2 lobster claw, *Heliconia rostrata*

- \$2 bleeding heart, *Dicentra spectabilis*

Miniature sheet (2 x 2):

- \$2.75 cockscomb, *Celosia spicata*
- \$2.75 passion flower, *Passiflora caerulea*
- \$2.75 Prairie blue eyes daylily, *Heimerocallis* sp
- \$2.75 blue water lily, *Nymphaea caerulea*

Miniature sheet:

- \$6 painted feather, *Vriesea nata*

Miniature sheet:

- \$6 Cuban lily, *Scilla peruviana*

083 July 14, 2011

The London Olympic Games of 1948

Printing: litho.

Miniature sheet (3 x 1): three se-tenant stamps and one single.

- \$3 Wembley Stadium in 1948 (photograph)
- \$3 Robert Bruce Matthias, 1930-2006, USA, competing in the decathlon (photograph)
- \$3 Fanny Blankers-Koen, 1918-2004, Netherlands, with Maureen Gardner, 1928-1974, Great Britain: gold and silver medallists in 80m hurdles (photograph)
- \$3 official poster for the Games (discobolus and Olympic rings over Palace of Westminster)

Border: Palace of Westminster in silhouette

084 Oct 1, 2012

Elvis Presley in *That's The Way It Is*

Printing: litho.

Miniature sheet:

- \$9 publicity shot for the film: Elvis Presley in profile

Miniature sheet:

- \$9 publicity poster for the film: Elvis in red shirt singing into microphone

Miniature sheet:

- \$9 Elvis in floral shirt, playing guitar

Miniature sheet:

- \$9 Elvis singing (monochrome)

Note: 1970 documentary directed by Denis Sanders

085 Oct 1, 2012

Abraham Lincoln, 1809-1865

Designs: portraits, based on photographs.

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet (4 x 1):

- \$2.75 Lincoln as young man (unshaven)
- \$2.75 Lincoln in long jacket (standing)
- \$2.75 Lincoln (upper body)
- \$2.75 Lincoln (head and shoulders)

Miniature sheet: design composite with border.

- \$6 detail of the Lincoln Monument in Washington DC, USA

086 Oct 1, 2012

Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

Design: from drawings by young artists (sheet stamps), photographs (first miniature sheet) or sketch (second miniature sheet).

Printing: litho.

Sheet stamps:

- 10c drawing with globe surrounded by flags of Commonwealth nations, a design for a £2 stamp
- 10c drawing of Jubilee emblem (crown) flanked by the flags of St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and St Kitts & Nevis

- 25c drawing of crown with its headband wrapped by the flag of St Kitts & Nevis
- 30c drawing of wreath composed from Union flags with orb bearing colours of St Kitts & Nevis, inscribed '60'
- \$1.20 drawing of handshake, clocktowers, and meld of flags of St Kitts & Nevis and UK

Miniature sheet (2 x 2):

- \$3.50 Queen Elizabeth under an umbrella (1970s)
- \$3.50 Princess Elizabeth (head, in profile)
- \$3.50 Queen Elizabeth in Coronation robes, waving
- \$3.50 Queen Elizabeth in fur stole and tiara (1950s)

Border: drawing of Elizabeth wearing a beret

Miniature sheet: design composite with border.

- \$9 sketch of Elizabeth wearing a beret (as border of first miniature sheet, but cropped)

087 Oct 1, 2012

15th anniversary of the Death of Diana, Princess of Wales

Design: from photographs.

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet (4 x 1):

- \$3 x 4 Princess Diana wearing tiara

Border: Diana (monochrome photograph) and dates 1961-1997

Miniature sheet: diamond-format stamp.

- \$9 Princess Diana in white blouse

Border: Diana in dark coat and hat, and 'Di' inscription

088 Oct 1, 2012

Game Fish of the Caribbean

Printing: litho.

Sheetlet (3 x 2):

- \$2.50 french angelfish, *Pomacanthus paru*
- \$2.50 great barracuda, *Sphyrna barracuda*
- \$2.50 spotted trunkfish, *Lactophrys bicaudata*
- \$2.50 trumpetfish, *Aulostomus maculatus*
- \$2.50 orange-lined triggerfish, *Balistapus undulatus*
- \$2.50 eagle ray, *Myliobatis* sp

Miniature sheet: design composite with border.

- \$6 butterflyfish, *Chaetodon semilarvatus*

089 Oct 1, 2012

Shells

Printing: litho.

Miniature sheet: 4 circular format stamps.

- \$2.75 *Turbo petholatus*
- \$2.75 *Mitra stictica*
- \$2.75 *Muricanthus radix*
- \$2.75 *Murex bicolor*

Border: details of two further shells

Miniature sheet:

- \$6 *Haliotis asinina*

090 Oct 1, 2012

Parrots of the Caribbean

Printing: litho.

Miniature sheet: 4 stamps arranged in 2 vertical pairs.

- \$2.75 green-winged macaw, *Ara chloroptera*
- \$2.75 St Vincent amazon, *Amazona guildingii*
- \$2.75 yellow-headed amazon, *Ara ochrocephala*



083 ST KITTS

London Olympics of 1948



090 ST KITTS

Parrots of the Caribbean

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\$2.75 orange-winged or Venezuela amazon, *Amazona amazonica*
 Border/gutter: palm tree
Miniature sheet:
 \$6 blue and gold macaw, *Ara ararauna*
 Border: palm tree

091 Dec 1, 2011

Greetings

Printing: litho (base design).

Personalisable stamp: sheets of 9.

\$3 blank panel for personalisation, with country name, coat of arms and denomination at base

Note: sold philatelically in unpersonalised state

092 Dec 8, 2011

General Assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation, St Kitts, Nov 7-11, 2011

Printing: litho.

Sheet stamp:

25c CGF Assembly logo: stylised bird with inscription

Miniature sheet:

\$1.20 group photograph of Kittitian athletes, Antoine Adams, Delwayne Delaney, Jason Rogers, Kim Collins and Brijesh Lawrence

SWITZERLAND

(last listed in June 2014)

093 Sept 4, 2014

Swiss Skills

Design: Urs Lieber, Swiss Association of Painters & Plasterers (winning entry in competition for trade associations).

Printing: litho, Giesecke & Devrient, Leipzig.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 16.

100c tools and equipment for house painting and plastering

094 Sept 4, 2014

Garfield

Design: Jim Davis, USA, the creator of the Garfield comic-strips and cartoons.

Printing: litho, Enschedé.

Self-adhesive panel: 10 stamps separately affixed, matrix removed.

100c x 5 Garfield (cat) and Olie (dog) in kitchen making a fondue

100c x 5 Garfield in mountain area, eating a Swiss chocolate bar

Self-adhesive booklet (10.00f): 10 stamps affixed in 5 vertical 'pairs'.

100c x 5 Garfield (cat) and Olie (dog) in kitchen making a fondue

100c x 5 Garfield in mountain area, eating a Swiss chocolate bar

Cover: Garfield making facial expressions

095 Sept 4, 2014

The Lindau Messenger

Design: Beat Leuenberger and Jürg Glauser.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 20 (5 x 4).

140c post carriage (19th-century style) hauled by five-horse team on serpentine road (symbolical), and map

Note: postal courier service originating in 16th century. The map shows the original route from Lindau (now in Germany) to Milan (now in Italy). The mail coach depicted appears to be an anomaly

096 Sept 4, 2014

Swiss Wildlife

Design: Naomi Niewald (painted illustrations).

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 20 (5 x 4).

85c mouse-weasel, *Mustela nivalis*

100c alpine marmot, *Marmota marmota*

140c nutcracker, *Nucifraga caryocatactes*

190c red deer, *Cervus elaphus*

Note: fauna shown are extant in the Swiss National Park, which celebrated its centenary in 2014

097 Sept 4, 2014

The Record

Design: Thomas Rathgeb.

Printing: litho with raised special lacquer coating, Enschedé.

Miniature sheet: circular stamp in free-form sheet (rectangular with rounded corners and extension for record deck arm).

500c depiction of a record on a record player deck

Note: Swiss Post says that when the stamp is placed on a real record player at 33rpm, it plays a brass band version of the Swiss national anthem

098 Nov 13, 2014

Swiss Landscapes. Emmenthal

Design: from photograph by Daniel Fuchs.

Printing: litho, Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein.

Miniature sheet: design composite with border.

200c rural scene (fields with barn and farm), Bernese Alps in background

099 Nov 13, 2014

Celebrity Art. Sense of Taste

Design: Pipilotti Rist (b1962), Swiss video artist resident in Switzerland and UK.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheetlet: 8 stamps arranged in rows of 1, 4, 3, set at an angle of 45°, plus 4 perforated labels.

100c x 8 tips of two human tongues (photograph)

Labels: eye, nose, ear, fingerprint

100 Nov 13, 2014

Christmas 2014

Design: Dominique Rossier.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Self-adhesive sheet stamps: sheets of 20.

0.85f Christmas crib (stable with pitched roof and figures of Holy Family), and decorated living room with stack of wrapped presents

1.00f Santa Claus holding a hand-bell, and fireplace with hung-up stockings

1.40f advent wreath with four white candles, and table laid for Christmas feast

1.90f kitchen scene with bird roasting in oven, and tray of gingerbread biscuits

101 Nov 13, 2014

Pro Juventute 2014. Family Rituals

Design: Nicholas d'Aujourd'hui.

Printing: litho, Enschedé.

Self-adhesive sheet stamps: sheets of 10 (2 x 5) with illustrated labels.

85c + 40c wandering lights on a dark night: outdoor procession with children holding turnip lanterns

100c + 50c story-telling: father reading to girl and boy, with magical animal

characters appearing behind him

100c + 50c baking biscuits: family (with dog) making cut-to-shape spitzbuben

Labels: extracts from stamp designs.

Self-adhesive flat panel: 3 stamps, separately spaced, with matrix removed.

85c + 40c wandering lights

100c + 50c story-telling

100c + 50c baking biscuits

Self-adhesive flat panel: 'block' of 4.

85c + 40c x 4 wandering lights

Self-adhesive flat panel: 'block' of 4.

100c + 50c x 4 story-telling

Self-adhesive flat panel: 'block' of 4.

100c + 50c x 4 baking biscuits

Self-adhesive booklet (sold at 17.50f): 12

stamps affixed 4/4/4 to inside covers.

85c + 40c x 4 wandering lights

100c + 50c x 4 story-telling

100c + 50c x 4 baking biscuits

Cover: father reading to children (as stamp motif)

Note: surcharges to Pro Juventute children's foundation

102 Nov 13, 2013

Stamp Day. Saignelégier

Design: from photograph by Beatrice Zehnder.

Printing: litho, Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein.

Miniature sheet: design composite with border.

100c + 50c view in Seignelégier: horses in fields, village (with stud farm), lake

Note: surcharge to Foundation for Promotion of Philately

TOKELAU

(last listed in Dec 2014)

103 Dec 10, 2014

Christmas 2014

Design: New Zealand Post, Wellington. All

designs show illuminated Nativity scenes.

Printing: digitally printed, NZ Post Collectables & Solutions Centre, Whanganui.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 16.

45c the shepherds

\$2.00 stable with Jesus, Mary and Joseph

\$3.00 three wise men

Miniature sheet (3 x 1):

45c, \$2.00, \$3.00, designs as sheet stamps

104 April 7, 2015

Traditional Tokelau Fishing

Design: New Zealand Post, Wellington.

Printing: digitally printed, NZ Post Collectables & Solutions Centre, Whanganui.

Sheet stamps: sheets of 16.

45c paddling for atu (skipjack), and rods

\$1.40 netting for laulau (moorish idols), and net

\$2.00 scoop netting for manini (convict tang), and scoop net

\$3.00 noosing for pala (wahoo), and noose

Miniature sheet (2 x 2):

45c, \$1.40, \$2.00, \$3.00, designs as sheet stamps

TURKEY

(last listed in July 2015)

105 May 24, 2013

240th anniversary of the Technical University, Istanbul

Design: from photographs.



094 SWITZERLAND

Garfield



095 SWITZERLAND

The Lindau Messenger



096 SWITZERLAND

Swiss Wildlife



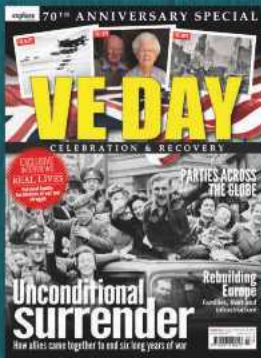
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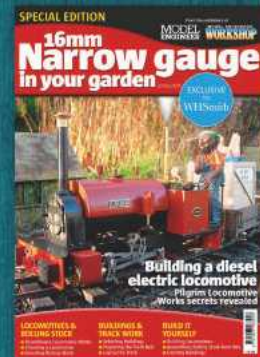


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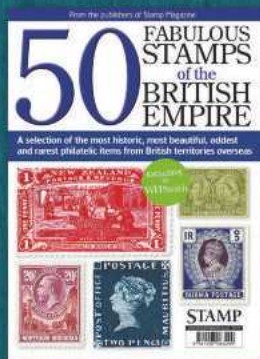
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Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Miniature sheet (2 x 2):

- 1.10TL view of the Technical University building
- 1.10TL view of the building (different)
- 1.10TL view of the building (different)
- 1.10TL view of the building (different)

106 May 29, 2013

130th anniversary of the City of Beypazan

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Sheet stamps with surcharge:

- 1.10TL + 10k three-storey building
- 1.10TL + 10k products of Beypazan: lace butterflies, culinary treats, bottle of drink, bunch of carrots

107 June 5, 2013

World Day of the Environment

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Miniature sheet (4 x 1): design composite with border.

- 1.10TL head of man filled with water and body of cracked earth
- 1.10TL section of globe showing Americas, with glaciers and rivers
- 1.10TL section of globe showing Europe and Africa with solar flares, tractor ploughing, and polar bear
- 1.10TL family of four with pet cat, rabbit and fox, glacier and glacial meltwater pool

108 June 10, 2013

17th Mediterranean Games, Mersin, Turkey

Printing: PTT Printer.

Miniature sheet (1 x 4): design composite with border.

- 1.10TL sea wave carrying a shell, shot-putter, javelin thrower, runner, boxer
 - 1.10TL boxer, weightlifter, sailboard
 - 1.10TL gymnast, archer, wave carrying seaweed
 - 1.10TL volleyball player, racing cyclist
- Border: Games logo and sea turtles

109 June 10, 2013

17th Mediterranean Games, Mersin, Turkey

Printing: lenticular (three-dimensional plastic layer) on backing card. Laser-cut perf 13 3/4 x 14 1/4 with elliptical punch-outs on horizontal sides.

Self-adhesive stamp:

- 5TL sea turtle and cartoon Games mascots (turtles wearing swimming costume)
- Note: sold in a presentation folder with a first day cover, at premium over face value

110 June 28, 2013

60th Anniversary of the Public Administration Institute for Turkey & The Middle East

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Sheet stamp:

- 1.10TL emblem superimposed on building (civil service training school), and Kemal Atatürk with books on table

111 July 25, 2013

World Expo 2016, Antalya, Turkey

Printing: PTT Printer.

Sheet stamps:

- 2.20TL four children sitting in a garden, holding flowers, and minaret
- 2.20TL Expo 2016 logo

Note: this issue remained in use as a definitive

112 August 16, 2013

Regional Gastronomy series. Central Anatolia

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Miniature sheet (4 x 1): design composite with border.

- 1.10TL dishes, with ingredients illustrated in background
 - 1.10TL dishes and ingredients (different)
 - 1.10TL dishes and ingredients (different)
 - 1.10TL dishes and ingredients (different)
- Border: tractor and wheatfield

113 Aug 27, 2013

Definitives. Calligraphy

Printing: litho, PTT Printer. Perf 13 3/4 with elliptical cut-outs on horizontal sides and star punch-outs on vertical sides.

Sheet stamps:

- 1TL calligraphy in black on pale olive background
- 1.10L calligraphy in black on cyan background
- 8TL calligraphy in black on multicoloured background frame
- 10TL calligraphy in black on pale mauve vegetative repeating pattern

Note: the calligraphic emblems are in Arabic script, used to write Turkish until the 1920s

114 Sept 2, 2013

145th anniversary of the Council of State

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Sheet stamps:

- 1.10TL anniversary emblem (book) and '145'
- 1.20TL Council building in Ankara

115 Sept 5, 2013

11th International Ministerial Forum on Transport, Maritime Affairs & Communication, Istanbul

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Sheet stamps:

- 1.10TL communications satellite over Earth (eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea)
- 1.10TL aircraft over warehouses
- 2.20TL road and rail traffic crossing bridge
- 2.20TL train, tunnel, and map of connection over/under Bosphorus

Miniature sheet (4 x 1): designs composite with border, forming panoramic view.

- 1.10TL first Bosphorus bridge (built 1973)
- 1.10TL first Bosphorus bridge (different)
- 1.10TL first Bosphorus bridge (different)
- 1.10TL first Bosphorus bridge (different)

116 Sept 14, 2013

13th Istanbul Biennale

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Sheet stamp:

- 1.10TL map (poster) of the Golden Horn waterway in Istanbul, with areas in Istanbul and Besiktas highlighted

Note: art and culture festival

117 Sept 25, 2013

Festival of Turkish & Turkic Languages

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Sheet stamp:

- 1.10TL emblem (ancient map), monument with inscribed tablet and two historical figures, Kemal Atatürk, book

118 Oct 10, 2013

135th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Turkey & Romania

Printing: litho, PTT Printer.

Miniature sheet:

- 3.85TL Charles I Mosque in Constanta, Romania, and Istanbul scenes
- Border: Istanbul scenes
- Note: joint issue with Romania

119 Oct 22, 2013

The Turkish Postal Museum

Printing: litho (sheet stamps), or litho and embossed (miniature sheet). Perf 12 1/4.

Sheet stamps: 2 circular stamps set within rectangular labels.

- 1.10TL clouds, banner and modern Turkish stamps (2010)
 - 2.20TL exhibition pieces (display)
- Miniature sheet:** 7-sided stamp, se-tenant with 2 triangular labels.
- 8TL modern postman on moped, postal buildings, man in sorting office, red pillar box, modern postbox, postman in 19th-century uniform

Labels: emblems of PTT and Museum

Note: the miniature sheet was sold in a presentation folder, at a premium price of 30TL

VATICAN CITY

(last listed in April 2015)

120 Feb 19, 2015

Start of the Third Year of the Pontificalcy of Francis I

Designs: photographs.

Printing: litho, BDT, Ireland.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 10 (5 x 2).

- 0.80€ Pope Francis during general audience of May 21, 2014
- 0.95€ Pope Francis with a new-born child during general audience of May 21, 2014
- 2.30€ Pope Francis on day of Saints Peter and Paul, June 29, 2014
- 3.00€ Pope Francis in prayer on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, 2013

121 Feb 19, 2015

International Year of Light. Painting by Michelangelo Buonarroti

Design: detail from fresco in the Sistine Chapel.

Printing: litho, Cartor.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 10 (2 x 5).

- 2.15€ *And God Said Let There Be Light: creation of the stars*

122 Feb 19, 2015

Display of the Turin Shroud, April 19-June 24, 2015

Printing: Printex, Malta.

Sheet stamp: sheets of 10 (2 x 5).

- 0.95€ stylised depiction of Shroud and inscription 'L'Amore più Grande'

123 Feb 19, 2015

Easter 2015. Painting from the Vatican Museum's Pinacoteca

Printing: litho, Printex, Malta.

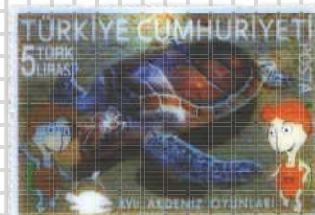
Sheetlet (2 x 2):

- 0.80€ x 4 Christ leaving his tomb, a work by the unknown artist known as the 'Master of the Crucifix of Trevi'



113 TURKEY

Definitives. Calligraphy



109 TURKEY

Mediterranean Games



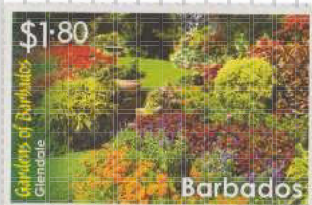
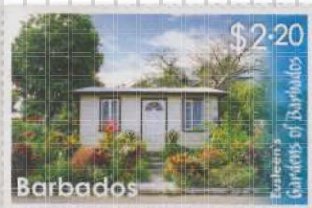
122 VATICAN CITY

Turin Shroud



121 VATICAN CITY

International Year of Light



017 GARDENS

Gardens of Barbados



111 EXPO

World Expo 2016, Turkey

A HANDY CROSS-REFERENCE TO ACCOMPANY THIS MONTH'S NEW ISSUE GUIDE

The most popular collecting themes are listed in alphabetical order, with the reference numbers of all the relevant entries in this month's New Issue Guide, guiding you quickly to the new stamps which most interest you. Personalities are given a separate listing for your convenience. A single stamp issue will often be cross-referenced under more than one category.

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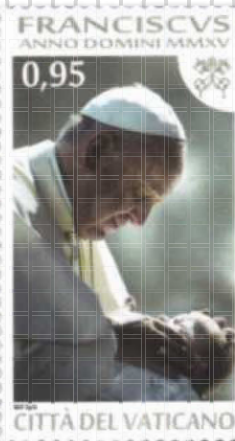
058 ARIK EINSTEIN

Israeli singer, songwriter



044 JEAN JAURÈS

French politician



120 FRANCIS I

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041 BENJAMIN RABIER

French illustrator

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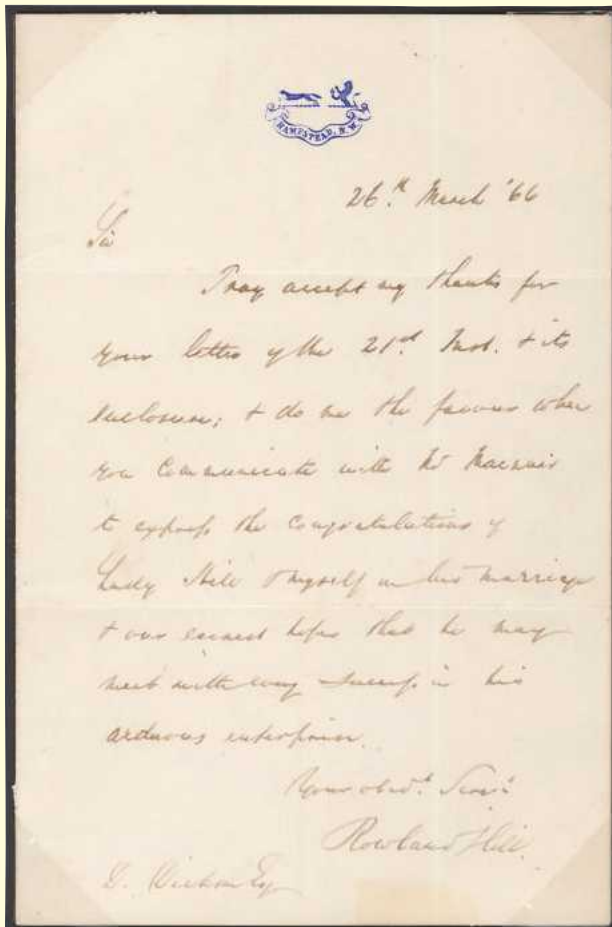
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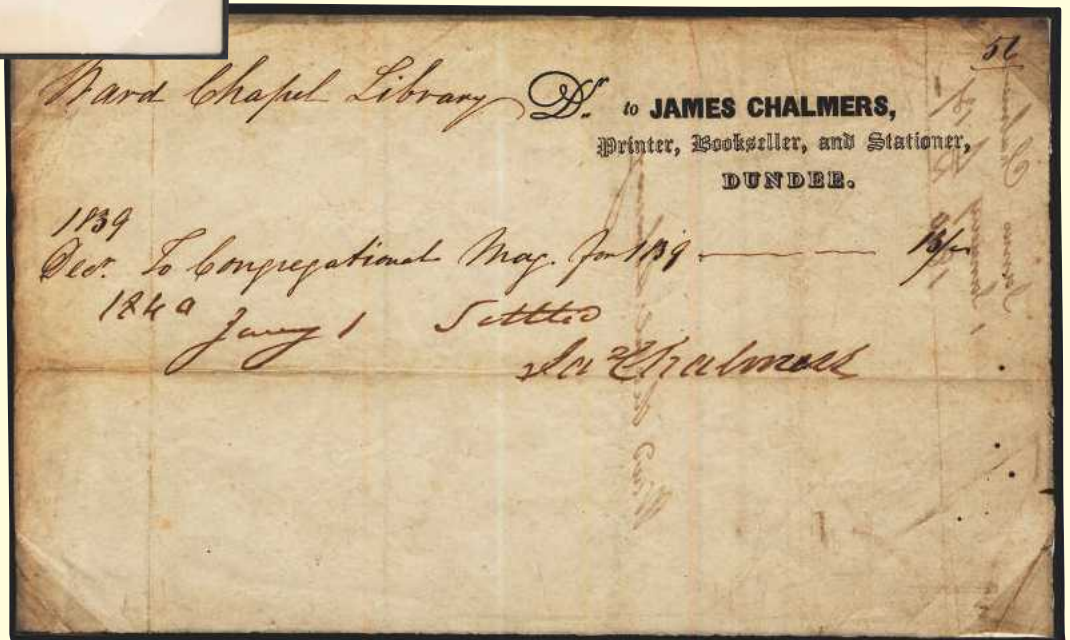
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Loose cannon

When a small colony was sneakily attacked by a huge submarine, no-one could have imagined that it would later celebrate the vessel on one of its stamps

■ Report by John Winchester

Named after a French pirate of the Napoleonic Wars, the French submarine *Surcouf* was the largest in the world at the outbreak of World War II. She was being refitted in Brest when Germany invaded France in 1940, but avoided capture by limping across the English Channel to Plymouth.

Refettled and taken over by the Free French navy, she was sent on what was supposed to be a goodwill tour of Canada in 1941, but with unintended consequences. Her patriotic crew, vehemently opposed to the puppet Vichy Government of France, soon had its eyes set on liberating the Vichy-controlled colony of St Pierre & Miquelon, an island group off the south coast of Newfoundland.

On the night of December 23, *Surcouf* crept into the harbour of St Pierre, accompanied by three corvettes, and quickly overcame the resistance put up by 11 gendarmes, the pro-Vichy Governor and a propaganda-broadcasting radio station.

If the invasion was complete within 15 minutes, the furore would last a lot longer. Both Britain and Canada were naturally sympathetic to the invasion, but the neutral United States was incensed about this military action so close to home.

To diffuse the situation, *Surcouf* was despatched towards the Pacific Ocean, but she never made it. Her disappearance in February 1942 is the stuff of numerous conspiracy theories, not



ABOVE: St Pierre & Miquelon 1962 500f commemorating the 20th Anniversary of its Adherence to the Free French Government, depicting the submarine *Surcouf*

least because no wreck has ever been found.

Her moment of glory received a gratifying commemoration, however. When St Pierre & Miquelon issued a stamp in 1962 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of its Adherence to the Free French Government, the submarine was depicted by the colony she had infamously attacked. ■

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FOR FREE STAMP TRADE TIPS – Please visit our website
www.upastampauctions.co.uk



Don't think we can pay you up to 36% more?

COLLECTORS ARE RIGHT TO BE WARY OF LOFTY CLAIMS BUT THERE MAY BE GOOD REASONS WHY YOU MAY FIND SOME OF THEM TO BE TRUE

The stamp market constantly fluctuates so that at any given moment **if there is too much of what you wish to sell on the market**, despite what anybody claims, no dealer can offer you **massively more**.

However, there may be good reasons why some stamp organisations can offer you significantly more and pay you immediately rather than waiting months for the unknown of what you may or may not sell at auction – and you will be waiting even longer for payment.

It all depends upon that stamp dealer's/auction's business model. UPA buys and sells globally but if for example the nearest stamp dealer you approach only sells British stamps to a small market place then there is a strong possibility that he/she may be fully stocked already – so that if a price is proffered to you there is an increased likelihood of your receiving a lower offer as your collection, or part of your collection may be 'traded on' to a larger dealer. Worse still, other unrelated areas of your collection may be neglected or not valued in any offer you receive.

If you consign your collection to auction and it is unsuitable or too time-consuming for that auction to 'break' it into smaller lots – then there is a very strong probability that you will be paying an auction to sell your stamps to a stamp dealer WHO could afford to pay you up to 36% more than you will receive. Don't forget most auctions charge the buyer of your collection up to twice the commission, or more, that they charge you.

It doesn't make sense for you to pay an auction to sell your stamps to a stamp dealer, when – if you handle the transaction wisely – you can receive the up to 36% more for yourself.

What happens when you ask UPA to make you an offer?

First we ask you to tell us about your collection and we listen. Then we ask you how much you know about the market for your type of collection? At this stage we add to your knowledge, informing you of current conditions you may be unaware of. Then we discuss whether we may be well placed to assist you and how that may be achieved.

Providing your collection has sufficient potential we may offer to visit without charge or obligation, or we will offer to uplift your collection from your home at our expense, insured in transit (and whilst in our care) free of charge. If you are situated in mainland UK and your collection is too bulky for you to pack, provided your collection is valuable enough, we may even provide a free packing service in addition to shipping to our office.

Now we assess your collection and offer you the choice of agreeing a price that will be paid immediately – or of our bidding against other dealers so that you know you are achieving the best possible price.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL:

Dear Folk at UPA,

I've dealt with the public for 37+ years, and as both a consumer, and a businessman, I have created huge numbers of orders from all over the world from a complete range of suppliers from all aspects of our daily lives.

But I don't believe I have ever encountered such sensitivity, such kind thought, such understanding as I have with you in our initial meeting, our subsequent successful transaction, and now this.

I recall well the item you highlight, and realise that this one item has such colossal personal value, I could never part with it.

It has been an absolute pleasure dealing with yourself, and I am more than willing for you to use this e-mail as commendation to others who may be thinking of disposing of their collection.

Many, many thanks for a memorable experience, and I will try to emulate your thought and care in my own business sphere.

Yours sincerely

D. E. B. Bath, UK



National number please contact: Andrew McGavin or John Cowell on 01451 861 111
number please contact: Andrew McGavin or John Cowell on 01451 861 111

Guarantee: We guarantee that you will never be under pressure at any stage of the process; you will always be in control. E-mail or Contact UPA now: 01451 861 111

Why can UPA often pay considerably more?

We often buy at auction. That auction takes the "up to 36% more" that we pay that YOU DO NOT RECEIVE.

However – there is another equally important reason namely **The UPA Business Model**. Unlike most dealers we believe that if an item is not selling, then it must be too expensive. This is the reason why when you receive our quarterly catalogues of up to 20,671 different lots (you can request a sample one free) ... you will find

that if an item has been previously unsold we **actually tell you**. Furthermore each time an item is unsold we reduce the price and we **keep on reducing the price – until finally the lot sells** or it is given away. In practice good material sells quickly whilst other material finally finds its own price and sells. This is the reason why there are always 1,000's of new offers at UPA and part of the reason why we are usually in a position to pay you more and pay you immediately.

Furthermore, unlike some, UPA has not one but **4 different selling systems** selling 95% of stamps to collectors, so that when a collection is purchased the most valuable/interesting stamps go into our Universal Philatelic Auctions (a NEW UPA UK record 2,031 different bidders in the last auction). Intermediate/lower-priced sets/singles enter our Omniphil and Avon Approvals systems (established 56 years and over 1,250 regular collector clients), inexpensive stamps enter the Avon Mixtures system and eBay (universalphilatelic) for surplus material. All of which is why UPA can purchase and pay for almost literally anything.....

WHAT DOES UPA BUY?

UPA literally purchases almost any country collection worth £250 upwards from sets and singles to classics and entire British, British Empire, Europe and World collections. At the moment UPA has **exceptional demand for original collections and GB & British Empire** in particular.

What do I do next?

You contact UPA and talk to one of our friendly Team who will help to inform you so that you can decide how to progress matters there is no charge and no obligation **please CONTACT UPA NOW.**

Remember, if you are selling a collection collectors buy the stamps they are missing; this is why dealers exist. Most intact collections offered at auction sell to dealers. **Save commissions and uncertainty by contacting UPA today.** We guarantee that you will never be under pressure at any stage of the process, you will always be in control. **CONTACT our friendly UPA Team NOW: 01451 861 111**



ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

If you'd like to discuss the sale of your collection please contact Elaine or Andrew on 01451 861111

Visit www.upastampauctions.co.uk when you want to buy or sell stamps.

UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

4 The Old Coalyard, West End Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK

Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297

www.upastampauctions.co.uk • sellSM@upastampauctions.co.uk





Philately Understood

WHAT EVERYBODY OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT COLLECTING AND BUYING AND SELLING STAMPS

Advance Notification of upcoming NEW 'Stamp Tips of the Trade' + 'Case Studies'

Some *Plain Talk* about the simple business of stamps which often seems complicated

Why is my business publishing this information?

I can remember the day I found my Father's stamp collection in the bottom drawer of the bureau in the dining room more than 45 years ago. Aged 11, I was excited travelling the world through his stamps. In those days every school had a stamp club and mine was no exception. I took the collection to school and joined the stamp club. When Mr. Armitage (the Chemistry Teacher who ran the club) asked what stamps we collected I said "Wurtemberg" – much to everybody's surprise. In fact they were from Austria and the page was misclassified. They were those imperforate 1920's Austrian Newspaper stamps which fascinated me and as everybody now knows are hardly worth anything ... but probably they helped me get started in stamps.

Over following years I found little help in understanding stamps, so much had to be learned the hard-way, which is why my company UPA publishes what I dare to hope are useful articles about collecting and buying and selling stamps. It is my hope that these prove valuable to you and that we may serve you if you decide to contact us ...

There are several different types of stamp businesses

In fact no two stamp dealers are alike. What a truism that is. Once in Amsterdam I made the mistake of admitting to the owner of the stamp shop I was visiting that I was a dealer. In almost perfect English "We Don't sell to Dealers" and he turned his back. So did I - as I left his shop. But over the years I discovered that the only way to succeed in stamps was to create a business of stamp selling systems and join them all together. This is what allows us to handle stamps from literally every single country in the world. Recently in coming articles which I shall call 'Case Studies' the strength of this business model has become apparent.

How can UPA help you?

If You are Collecting You can Request ...

1. **Auction:** Take £55 OFF Your 1st purchase (UK clients + selected countries) Offer: Request your Next Free UPA auction catalogue worth £15 comprising 20,000+/- lots from £'s to £1,000's. Apart from £55 OFF you'll benefit from UPA's Unique combination of features to collector colleagues – NO Buyer's Premium – Reducing Estimate System till sold or given away – All lots Guaranteed – Modest shipping + Free Insurance. **Request now – coupons by magazine Index**
2. **Approvals:** Take £25 OFF Your 1st Approvals purchase (UK clients + selected countries): Individually identified and priced stamp selections of stamps from most countries in the world sent to you on approval. You select those you want and return the rest with payment. Established 56 years. **Request now – coupons by magazine Index**

3. **OFF-paper WORLD / Country Mixtures** – Unit priced – buy those you want, return those you don't – UK clients SEND £6.45 – over 100,000 bags supplied. **Request now – coupons by magazine Index**
4. **On-line?** E-Bay clients – hundreds of lots starting 1p auctions though to £20,000 collections on-line. Visit www.upastampauctions.co.uk for links to eBay account ID's: upa-global, universal-philatelic, upa-collectables, upa-online
5. **PRIVATE TREATY:** A new UPA selling system – valuable collections sold / matched to clients on a commission basis. Modest fees, No sale, No charge. British Empire collections required to £250,000, GB collections to £500,000, Collections / Postal History / Foreign from £2,000 upwards

If You are Selling Please Contact Andrew / Elaine at UPA:

Valuable Collections wanted: We can use and have clients who require GB collections to £500,000, British Empire / British Commonwealth to £250,000 and Foreign required. **Telephone, Fax or E-mail now.**

"We Don't sell to Dealers" and he turned his back.

Why does UPA make Promotional Offers?

Unlike most other stamp companies we believe in giving before hoping to receive. We believe in proving to YOU that your trust in dealing with UPA is well founded. Proving to YOU in advance of asking you to purchase from us is much of our model.

Most collector colleagues stay with UPA which is why we can make you such an extraordinary offer. 2,031 different collectors (and some dealers) bid in our latest auction, 88% of whom won lots. Without pernicious buyer's premium average regular collector bidders save £250 a year at UPA. *Client loyalty is the reason why we can offer 1st time buyers aged over 18 (!) £55 OFF your 1st auction purchase whether you spend more than £55 or not.* **Request now – coupons by magazine Index**

Advance Notification of NEW 'Stamp Tips of the Trade' and 'Case Studies' to follow

We're going to be publishing more articles in the coming months. If you would like to know more about how my company may serve you ... please use the coupons beside the Index in this Stamp Magazine ... if you are really interested please do it NOW, don't forget to Request My 'Tips of the Trade FREE booklet too ! **Please contact us in any way today**

Looking forward to hearing from you.
Thank you for reading

Andrew McGavin Managing Director UPA

Contact us in any way today

**Universal Philatelic Auctions (SM8): 4, The Old Coalyard,
West End, Northleach, Glos, GL54 3HE,
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E-Mail: info@upastampauctions.co.uk

Web: www.upastampauctions.co.uk



**Andrew on
Alan Titchmarsh Show ITV**

**REQUEST MY
'TIPS OF THE
TRADE' FREE
BOOKLET**

